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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-138
Thursday
20 July 1989

# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

*FBIS-NES-89-138* *20 July 1989*

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## Palestinian Affairs

### Israeli Plot to Kill 'Arafat Reportedly Uncovered

#### U.S. Said to Intervene

*NC1907123489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Citing sources it described as reliable, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-SIYASAH reports that the U.S. Administration intervened just in time to stop the implementation of a secret Israeli plan to assassinate PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat.

According to the paper, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir personally supervised the preparation of the plan more than 6 months ago. He did not inform the Israeli inner cabinet so the plan could remain a secret.

#### PLO's Abu Sharif Comments

*NC1907184389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Bassam Abu Sharif, Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, has warned of a plot to assassinate the PLO chairman. He told REUTER that groups which are protected by Syria and Iran are planning such an assassination. Abu Sharif also accused Israel of being involved in conspiracies to kill Palestinian leaders. He declined, however, to comment on a report broadcast by a U.S. television network stating that Ahmad Jibril, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, has accepted a $122 million contract to kill 'Arafat.

#### PLO Reportedly Uncovers Plan

*JN1907191089 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 17 Jul 89 p 1*

[Excerpt] Tunis, AL-YAWM, News Agencies—Palestinian sources in Tunis have said that the PLO has discovered an Israeli plan to assassinate Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat during his visit to an African country recently. The sources affirmed to AL-YAWM that the PLO also discovered Zionist plans to assassinate some PLO officials in Western Europe. The sources said that Ibrahim al-Sus, the PLO official in Paris, has recently escaped an assassination attempt. The sources said that Israel believes that by assassinating some PLO cadres or its leader it will uproot the intifadah [uprising].

It is noted that Israel informed America recently—through Israeli enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's special envoy—that it has prepared four plans to quell the Palestinian intifadah in the occupied Arab territory. The Israeli envoy discussed these plans with the U.S. national security adviser.

The first plan calls for continuing mass deportations, emptying the occupied territory of the Palestinian leaders and youths, and taking more Israeli measures under the slogan—preemptive security measures.

The second plan calls on the Israeli intelligence services to pursue Palestinian leaders outside Israel and to assassinate them if they are proven to be involved in fedayeen operations against Israel inside and outside [Israel].

The third plan calls for assassinating influential Palestinian elements outside the occupied territory, particularly the second rank of the PLO leaders.

The fourth plan aims at assassinating Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat in an Arab or European capital. [passage omitted]

### 'Abd-Rabbuh Says U.S. Remarks Ignore Rights

*JN1907164489 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 18 Jul 89 p 26*

[By Fathi al-Barqawi from Tunis]

[Text] Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, PLO Executive Committee member and chief of the PLO Information Department, has said that recent U.S. statements do not call for optimism about reaching the desired results of the dialogue which started between the PLO and the U.S. Administration about 8 months ago.

In an exclusive statement to AL-ANBA', 'Abd-Rabbuh explained that the remarks made by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and the testimony of his aide for Near Eastern affairs, John Kelly, before Congress, constitute a flagrant expression of disregard for the Palestinian people's rights and a clear appeasement of Israel. The Palestinian official continued: While the European Community states are doubtful about the Israeli Government's plan for elections in the occupied Palestinian territories, the U.S. Government blatantly ignores the Palestinian state when it affirms that in order to achieve a settlement in the Middle East, all the area states must be recognized and their security guaranteed.

Explaining the PLO position on the U.S. Administration, 'Abd-Rabbuh said that dialogue with it will remain difficult as long as U.S. officials insist on blessing the Israeli Government's plan, which has been rejected by most nations of the world. He said that America's insistence on holding talks between Israeli officials and Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip clearly indicates that the United States intends to divide the people inside the occupied territories from the Palestinian leadership abroad.

The PLO Executive Committee member expressed amazement at the U.S. Administration's disregard for the PLO, although it is holding official contacts with it and although Kelly himself, referring to chances for a change in the Middle East which include a tendency by

Israel and the PLO to strongly acknowledge the need to deal with each other, recalled the PLO's recognition of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and Israel's right to exist.

'Abd-Rabbuh agreed with John Kelly that the dialogue between the PLO and the United States is not an objective in itself, and that to direct it toward furthering practical peace measures the PLO must be recognized as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that the U.S. Administration must work in good faith to get preparations for an international conference for peace in the Middle East started.

**Hurani on U.S.-Palestinian Dialogue, Arab Efforts**
*JN1907140689 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 17 Jul 89 p 1, 26*

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Concerning the meeting between the U.S. and Palestinian ambassadors in Tunis, PLO Central Committee Member 'Abdallah Hurani said that Hakam Bal'awi [PLO representative in Tunis] handed a protest message to the U.S. ambassador over the testimony given by John Kelly, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, before the Senate. He [Kelly] considered the Israeli Government's plan to hold elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip a sound basis for finding a solution to the Palestine question. In no way did he refer to the Palestinian peace initiative or the international peace conference.

Hurani revealed that the U.S. Administration has not yet responded to several questions posed by the Palestinian delegation to the third official meeting between the two sides about six weeks ago. He explained that in delaying holding a fourth meeting, the United States is trying to disregard the Palestinian demands. He expressed his belief that the United States is shying away from the official meetings because it believes that some of the bilateral meetings could substitute for official meetings.

The Palestinian official called for rallying Arab and international efforts to put pressure on the U.S. Administration to return to the subject of the international conference. On this topic, he pointed out what he described as the absence of an Arab stance, especially after the Casablanca summit resolution which accepted the Palestinian peace initiative as an Arab strategy.

**Al-Hasan on Divisions, Dialogue, Shamir Plan**
*JN1907151089 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 17 Jul 89 p 15*

[Interview with Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and head of the Palestinian Foreign Relations Committee, by 'Atif 'Awdah in Rabat; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] ['Awdah] There are some people in Fatah calling for separating the movement's policy from the PLO's policy. To what extent is it possible to reconcile this with the Palestinian weight which Fatah carries inside the PLO?

[Al-Hasan] I have heard no such thing. And if there are people who say this, there is no doubt that they understand politics as well as I understand the Japanese language. Fatah leads the Palestinian struggle and the Palestine National Council [PNC]. Consequently, Fatah is responsible for implementing PNC resolutions as it is the backbone of the PLO and its bodies. How can the PNC adopt resolutions that are rejected by the Executive Committee? And how can the leader not be responsible for implementing the resolutions of the command or the legislative authority?

['Awdah] But, Fatah is a PLO faction, and inside Fatah there are opponents or those who have a different opinion with regard to the PNC resolutions.

[Al-Hasan] The latter exist inside Fatah because there is a democracy based on voting. Some vote in favor and others against. And the votes are known. Fatah is not an organization only. I said that this is the stage of the people's leadership—the stage of the organization's leadership. This is because Fatah represents the essence of the national movement represented by the majority of the masses and because its political concepts are national with a pan-Arab dimension, not ideological with social depth. In light of this, your question is wrong.

['Awdah] Within the same framework, in Fatah there are parties who believe that such a proposal will put Fatah on the safe side if the PLO's current policy does not succeed.

[Al-Hasan] Whether it is the PLO or George Habash, this is a resolution adopted by the PNC. When the results of the voting were in favor of the resolutions, George Habash stood up and said: "We have not agreed on part of the resolutions with regard to [UN Resolution] 242, but the majority has agreed. Therefore, I am committed to work to render this policy a success. However, if we do not accomplish anything for our people within 3 or 4 years, I have the right to reconsider my position." The PNC applauded and agreed with his position. Any reasonable person who starts a business and does not make a profit within 2 months will reconsider his position.

['Awdah] In light of this, do you base your policy on the fact that the PLO program endorsed by the Algiers session will be implemented within a few years?

[Al-Hasan] Politics is not an economic project. It is said that this is a 4-year plan or 5-year plan. Even when George Bush said within 3 or 4 years, he did not mean that on the 1st day of the 5th year he will declare a new position. Politics is a continuing process.

If we find that the political stand which we adopted out of full conviction and on strategic, not tactical grounds, that the international community, particularly the two superpowers, and the situation and the course of the

political campaign are all advancing toward our objectives; namely, withdrawal, establishment of a state, self-determination, and repatriation—and if we find that matters are developing continuously and positively—then we will continue with this policy even if progress is slow. And if we find that the American and Soviet positions support the Israeli position in a way that makes our political stand meaningless, it is natural for us to reconsider our stand.

['Awdah] Have you taken into consideration that your Algiers resolutions may or may not be appropriate, or have you adopted those resolutions in light of the international situation, guarantees, and a political view of the future as the political leadership cannot adopt decisive resolutions that will lead to success or failure?

[Al-Hasan] The resolutions adopted by the PLO in Algiers are a compilation of all PNC resolutions adopted within this framework since 1974 when the 10 political points were endorsed—that is, when the PLO moved from the non-phased policy to the phased policy.

The other thing is that each leadership has the right to review its position in light of its experiment. The test is an issue that is related to the social system. You cannot apply socialism and lead the country to destruction, and then say after destroying the country: This is wrong, let us go back to socialism. The interests of the people are always the first priority. The Algiers session did not discuss the essence of the resolutions because those resolutions were adopted in the past. They were only listed in one document in a new logical style—the style of Mahmud Darwish. These resolutions have a different flavor from the details adopted throughout 15 years.

The other point is the timing. Had these resolutions been adopted before the atmosphere of international detente and before the blessed intifadah [uprising], they would not have been suitable. As they have been adopted in the wake of these developments, they were in harmony with the political events. They enabled the Palestinian leadership to go on the offensive instead of waiting to accept or reject the enemy's initiatives. Our resolutions were adopted in light of large-scale international contacts which have never stopped.

['Awdah] Including the United States?

[Al-Hasan] Including the United States, although the contacts with them were indirect—through Palestinians with American citizenship. [passage omitted]

['Awdah] What is the PLO's view of the work of the Arab committee formed by the Casablanca summit under the chairmanship of the Moroccan king since one of its resolutions recommends coordination between the PLO and the Moroccan king with regard to its moves and formation?

[Al-Hasan] King Hassan II of Morocco and brother Yasir 'Arafat are in charge of this committee. The two leaders will discuss, during their first meeting, the formation and work of the committee.

['Awdah] Let us return to the Fatah Movement. Will there be a rejuvenation in the Fatah leadership—that is, the Revolutionary Council and the Central Committee—on a democratic basis or through appointments? Will new members join the Central Committee as has been reported?

[Al-Hasan] A high percentage will reach positions in the leadership in accordance with an agreement. Another percentage, one third, cannot be defined because every position has a revolutionary council.

['Awdah] I am talking about the Central Committee?

[Al-Hasan] All 15 members of the Central Committee will be elected.

['Awdah] Will there be new members?

[Al-Hasan] Certainly, a new Central Committee will be elected in every congress.

['Awdah] So far, there are 10. Three members were martyred and two others split away. Is it possible to increase the number to 20?

[Al-Hasan] There will be 20 or 15 members. If the number is increased, this means that the bylaw must be amended. The congress has the power to amend or not amend the bylaw. Whether it is amended or not, the 15 members are elected. No member can be appointed. A member can be appointed if a member is martyred and the congress does not convene. And this is not an appointment in the full sense of the word. The Central Committee names a member and the Revolutionary Council approves the nomination. And the Revolutionary Council is elected as well. The movement congress members are also elected because the regional councils elect their representatives. The bylaw defines the percentage of every region's representatives in the congress.

['Awdah] There is an impression that the Palestinian-American dialogue is slow and has not achieved its objective because the United States achieved what it wanted from the PLO before embarking on the dialogue. Therefore, it is now procrastinating in developing the dialogue to a point where political efforts could resolve the Palestine question.

[Al-Hasan] The international equation is not accomplished when Yasir 'Arafat adopts a decision required by the United States. And nothing can be accomplished in a day. America has a great interest in the Zionist entity. America also knows that the Palestinian peace offensive has almost split the Zionists inside and outside of the Zionist entity. America also knows that it must try to

reach an agreement with the Zionist entity. It knows that that the USSR cannot be ignored, and therefore it must reach an agreement with the USSR before embarking on a real and practical dialogue. America knows that there is a big battle ahead with Europe because the Middle East is one of the strategic markets for the European economy. Therefore, Europe will not accept being excluded from the solution because, as it said in the Brussels resolutions, it can contribute to the development, and, consequently, it must take part in the solution. The issue has an economic dimension on the international level. All this means that the issue is linked with international detente. The Palestinian-American dialogue cannot precede the international dialogue—on our side nor on theirs—unless we submit to what the United States wants. And we will not submit to what it wants.

['Awdah] On what does the pace of this dialogue depend?

[Al-Hasan] With regard to the international conference, the level is still low; it must be promoted. The issues are not as deep as they should be. The dialogue must be upgraded not only in terms of interlocutors but also in terms of issues. If the level of the interlocutors is upgraded the level of issues will also be upgraded. We must realize that this is a very important issue. It is an international issue that has an important connection with the cold war. Therefore, it is the last issue, not the first issue, that concerns the two superpowers. It is connected with the course of U.S.-Soviet talks on international detente.

['Awdah] Do you believe that what the Likud has decided in its recent conference and Shamir's commitments in his meeting with Bush with regard to the elections create a gap between the Israeli and the U.S. positions, and can this be exploited by Arabs and Palestinians?

[Al-Hasan] The Arab press speaks about America's anger. However, this is the lover's anger at one of his sweethearts. The matter has not reached a final and firm point in the American-Palestinian dialogue.

['Awdah] There are signs that the United States will abandon the elections plan in favor of the international conference.

[Al-Hasan] We should monitor everything carefully to see if there is a change or not because it was proved in the past that the United States does not change. The situation gives hope for the possibility of a limited change. We have to wait and we cannot judge things in advance. America will not change and we should not rejoice at Shamir's position thinking that it will change America's position.

['Awdah] Can Shamir's position be invested on the Arab level to develop the American position?

[Al-Hasan] The Shamir plan must be invested on the Arab level. This means that the Arabs should explain [the situation] to the world through their ambassadors, diplomats, contacts, and visits. [passage omitted]

['Awdah] If the Zionist settlers escalate their attacks on Palestinian civilians, will the intifadah methods continue or will the so-called negative struggle be developed?

[Al-Hasan] I prefer that things be left according to the circumstances. The intifadah is not waged by primitive forces, an army of commandos, or a regular army that has military plans. The intifadah is a popular creation under the leadership of the PLO. The people have carried out unexpected acts. The action and reaction between the occupation and its practices on one hand and the Palestinian people and their confrontation of the occupation practices on the other, determine the methods. So let us leave these things and refrain from speaking about them because they are linked with things that are not subject to ordinary military rules. [passage omitted]

## Sudan

### Garang Sets Conditions for Talks With al-Bashir

*NC1907200589 Paris AFP in English 1955 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Kuwait, July 19 (AFP)—The leader of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Colonel John Garang, has announced five conditions for meeting the country's new military junta chief, according to the Kuwait daily AL-QABAS.

Col. Garang's statement, published by the newspaper, was largely a demand to know the government's intentions regarding previous peace accords made between Khartoum and the rebels, who have been fighting since 1983 to free south Sudan from Moslem domination by the north.

A meeting with Lieutenant-General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, who seized power in Khartoum on June 30, "cannot take place before the real goals of the young officers in the north have been clarified, nor before prior talks between delegations from both parties," the statement said.

The SPLA wanted "to know: 1, the future of previous accords; 2, the real ability of the new government to respect a further agreement; 3, the plans of the new team in power and its attitude towards the problem of south Sudan; 3, the way in which these young men will behave regarding the serious problems facing Sudan; and 5, the attitude of the junta to coalitions in the Arab world."

Lt.-Gen. al-Bashir has proposed peace talks to the SPLA, but has indicated that the discussions would have to start again from scratch. The civilian government he ousted had been working towards a long-awaited constitutional conference on the basis of an accord reached last November between the rebels and one of the political parties in Khartoum.

"Preliminary talks could lay the basis for a global settlement and for high-level meetings in view of a definitive reconciliation," Col. Garang said in his statement published here Wednesday.

### Al-Bashir Terms Relations With U.S. 'Positive'

*JN2007115989 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0927 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Doha, 20 Jul (WAKH)—Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Command Council of the National Salvation Revolution, has praised the relations between his country and the Arab Gulf states and described them as close and developed. He expressed the hope that these relations will be developed even further.

In a statement to the Qatari newspaper AL-SHARQ published today, al-Bashir expressed optimism about the possibility of reaching peace in southern Sudan soon. He said: We have contacted all influential parties and informed them about our desire to continue the march of peace, and we have found understanding and welcome.

He stressed that no citizen will be brought to trial merely for his political participation in the former regime. He said that all administrative and political practices during the period of that rule will be revised and that anybody found guilty of abusing his government position for his own advantage or that of his party will be brought to trial.

Answering a question, al-Bashir said that the detainees are classified into two categories: Some are detained for security reasons and will be released as soon as these reasons are removed. Others are detained on corruption charges. Those who are found innocent by courts will be released, and over the next days a number of detainees against whom no charges were proved will be released.

Al-Bashir said that until new policies regarding Sudanese working abroad are adopted, there will be no taxes or obligatory financial contributions imposed on them. All that I hope for, he said, is that they transfer part of their savings to their homeland through official channels to support the national economy.

He said that he will soon visit Saudi Arabia. He paid tribute to Egypt's role in projecting the face of the Sudanese revolution to the world. This, he said, "saved much time and effort, which we would have needed to convince the world of the change in the Sudan."

On the nature of the current Sudanese-U.S. relations, al-Bashir said: Our relations with the United States have reached such a level of understanding that they can be described as positive.

### Economic Committee Chairman on U.S. Declaration

*NC1807160189 Cairo MENA in Egnlish 1537 GMT 18 Jul*

[Text] Khartoum, July 18 (MENA)—Staff Colonel Salah al-Din Muhammad Karar, member of the Revolutionary Command Council and chairman of the Economic Committee, said that the committee will not seek the confiscation of funds of any citizen except through the courts. He said only funds of those who are convicted in smuggling cases, in currency exchange trade and in crimes of sabotage of national economy will be confiscated. This came in an interview published by the Armed Forces newspaper today. On the United States declaration of exempting the African countries west of the Sahara from their debts, Karar said that the economic counselor of the American Embassy in Khartoum has confirmed the U.S declaration, adding that they were pleased with this announcement but they have not officially received its details.

## Saudi Arabia

### King Fahd Postpones July Visit to U.S.

*LD1907124189 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1140 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Jeddah, 19 Jul (SPA)—Considering the critical developments faced now by the Lebanese question, particularly with regard to the escalation of fighting between the two parts of the capital Beirut, in completion of the continuous efforts witnessed by the Arab mediation through the Arab higher tripartite committee, and out of the concern of King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, and his strong eagerness to reach with his brothers, the Arab leader-members of the committee, the expected results through the meetings and contacts taking place at the moment at the various levels toward tackling the Lebanese crisis, King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, may God protect him, telephoned His Excellency U.S. President George Bush yesterday evening [18 July] to express his wish that the official visit he was scheduled to make to the United States at the end of July be postponed until the beginning of September, God willing.

His Excellency U.S. President George Bush expressed his understanding of this gracious wish and expressed his wishes for the efforts of the committee to establish peace and stability in Lebanon to succeed.

## Kuwait

### Kuwait Recalls Ambassador to Bulgaria

*LD1907114989 Kuwait KUNA in English 1101 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Kuwait, July 19 (KUNA)—The Foreign Ministry recalled Kuwait's Ambassador to Bulgaria Talib al-Naqib to consult with him on the conditions of the Moslem minority in Bulgaria, one official source at the ministry said Wednesday.

Last June the freedom of expression of the Moslem minority in Bulgaria was violated by the authorities there.

Turkey, international Islamic organizations and other parties accuse the Bulgarian authorities of changing the Islamic names of those Moslems, who are of Turkish origins, to Bulgarian names.

The Bulgarian authorities said that this step as taken on the pretext that these Moslems are of Bulgarian origins who converted to Islam in the 14th century, at the influence of the Ottoman Empire and bringing them back to their original roots is a Bulgarian matter.

### USSR's Kochetov Leads Military Group Visit

#### Delegation Tours Army Units

*LD1907170989 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1339 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Jul (KUNA)—The visiting Soviet first deputy defense minister, Army General Konstantin Kochetov, and his accompanying delegation this morning paid a visit to some units of the Kuwaiti Army as part of their 4-day visit to Kuwait.

Kochetov was received by the commander of the land force, Staff Colonel 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Barghash; and Staff Colonel 'Abd al-Wahhab al-'Anzi.

The guest and those accompanying him inspected the command of the training center for BMB2 armored vehicle, where they heard a brief explanation of the departments and duties of the training center which teaches officers and NCO's about the armored vehicle.

At the end of the visit a tea party was given in honor of Kochetov and those accompanying him, during which presents were exchanged to commemorate the occasion.

#### Kochetov Terms Visit 'Success'

*LD2007110289 Kuwait KUNA in English 0944 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Kuwait, July 20 (KUNA)—Soviet First Deputy Defense Minister Konstantin Kochetov Thursday affirmed that his four-day visit to Kuwait was a success.

In a press statement before his departure earlier and given to KUNA by the Defense Ministry, Kochetov said that his visit realized its intended goals, including that it opened new horizons of military cooperation between Kuwait and Moscow and enhanced cooperation based on past agreements between the two countries.

General Kochetov had held talks with Defense Minister Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad, Deputy Chief of the Army's Staff Maj. Gen. Jabir al-Khalid al-Sabah and acting defense undersecretary Hamud Muhammad al-Utaybi.

He noted that his talks with Kuwaiti military officers took place in an atmosphere of friendship, full understanding and mutual good intentions.

The ranking Soviet official expressed admiration at the "fantastic" performance of the Kuwaiti Army staff in such weather conditions.

For his part Maj. Gen. al-Sabah affirmed that the visit by the Soviet official was a success and "it was a good opportunity to meet with Soviet leaders and will also boost the standing bilateral cooperation."

The senior Army officer said that Kochetov had inspected some of the Soviet weapons used by the Kuwaiti Army and helped in overcoming some of the difficulties.

Kochetov was seen off by Maj. Gen al-Sabah, senior Army officers and the Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Ernest Zverev.

## Spokesman Reacts to Iranian Communique

*JN1907194489 Baghdad INA in English*
*1700 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] United Nations, July 19, INA—Commenting on the communique issued by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on July 17, 1989, a statement by spokesman for the Permanent Mission of Iraq in New York was released today at UN Headquarters as a press release. The Iraqi spokesman stated: "On 17 July, Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a communique concerning the situation between Iraq and Iran on the progress of the negotiations, that was full of fallacies and lies. For purposes of clarification, we should like to set forth the following facts:

"1. The communique of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs made it appear that Iran accepted Resolution 598 (1987) officially on 18 July 1988 as a diplomatic step taken by the Iranian Government to facilitate the implementation of Resolution 598. The truth, as the members of the international community know, is that Iran did not accept Resolution 598, which was binding after its adoption, but used in dealing with it various kinds of strategems and maneuvers in an attempt to prolong the war and win time in the hope of achieving its aggressive expansionist goals.

"Iraq, for its part, insisted on the necessity of Iran's accepting the resolution officially, proceeding from a natural standpoint, namely, that resolutions of the Security Council must be accepted under the charter and that acceptance must be official. The Security Council and the international community know that Iran did not accept Resolution 598 for the reasons put forward by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It only announced its acceptance of it after its aggressive program was entirely smashed and it was smitten with wide-ranging military defeats in the period between April and July 1988. The communique issued by the ruler of Iran, Khomeyni, explaining Iran's acceptance of the resolution, disproves everything that was stated in the communique of the Iranian Foreign Ministry. The Iranian Foreign Ministry thinks that the world has forgotten Khomeyni's famous speech in which he said that acceptance of the Security Council Resolution was like drinking a cup of poison.

"2. Iraq's call for the holding of direct negotiations between the two parties under the auspices of the secretary-general before and after the cease-fire is a natural invitation in accordance with the procedure of the contemporary international community, which regards talks between the two conflicting parties as the best method for resolving disputes. It is absolutely clear that holding genuine direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran does not give Iraq any advantages. The Iranian regime's sensitivity about direct negotiations and its violent attack on them on every occasion arouse profound doubts about this regime's intentions and reaffirm what we have always said about the veracity of the statements and pronouncements of its leaders. If the rulers in Tehran really want to establish a lasting peace with Iraq, why this acute sensitivity about holding direct talks with Iraq?

"When Iraq calls for direct talks, it is affirming its sincerity in wishing to arrive at a peaceful settlement in accordance with international law.

"3. The agreement reached between Iraq and Iran on 8 August 1988 through the secretary-general of the United Nations removes all doubts about the topics to be dealt within the direct negotiations under the auspices of the secretary-general. These topics are all the provisions of the resolution that have not been implemented so far. There are not certain provisions of the resolution that are the subject of negotiations and other provisions that are not the subject of negotiations. The Iranian side's attempt to divide up the negotiations in this way is contrary to the text of the agreement of 8 August 1988. It is also contrary to the procedure of peaceful settlement of disputes as practiced by all states in the modern age, directly between themselves or under the auspices of the secretary-general of the United Nations.

"The Iranian leaders try hard to make world public opinion think that they agree to the proposals made by the secretary-general of the United Nations. They set themselves up as speaking in his name, taking advantage of the neutral position of the secretary-general, who avoids becoming embroiled in controversial details. We wish to state that this Iranian conduct constitutes unethical exploitation of the secretary-general's neutrality. The members of the Security Council are made fully cognizant of the contents of the negotiations through the secretary-general's statement to the Council.

"The spuriousness of these Iranian allegations are confirmed by the fact that the provisions which the Foreign Ministry's communiques claims are not included in the direct negotiations were included as points for discussion in all the papers put forward by the secretary-general to the two parties for discussion on the negotiating table with a view to arrival at agreement.

"The one topic that actually does lie outside the scope of the negotiations is the topic of the release of prisoners. Paragraph 3 of Resolution 598 and Article 118 of the Geneva Convention of 1949 concerning prisoners of war and precedents throughout the international community all affirm in a way that admits of no other interpretation the binding obligation to release and exchange prisoners without delay after the cessation of active hostilities and entrust the supervision of this process to the International Committee of the Red Cross. The Iranian side's insistence on not proceeding to release and exchange prisoners after a year has elapsed since the cessation of active hostilities fully demonstrates how incompatible this regime's position is with international law and

international humanitarian law and its readiness to gamble with the lives and suffering of tens of thousands of Iraqi and Iranian human beings in order to achieve political ends.

"It shows once again the selective approach adopted by this regime throughout the years of conflict with regard to Security Council resolutions and the provisions of international law, taking from them what it will and refusing to be bound by the obligations which they create for it.

"The fallacies contained in the communique of the Iranian Foreign Ministry regarding the question of the registration of the prisoners is another proof of the bad intentions of the Iranian regime and its constant inclination to trickery and play on words at the expense of human beings. The question of the registration of the prisoners is clear and unambiguous in international law: It is incumbent on the parties to the dispute to inform the Red Cross promptly of the number of prisoners and to provide the necessary information concerning them without delay.

"We informed the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the secretary-general of the United Nations officially of our readiness to register all Iranian prisoners who were not registered when the Iranian side shows the same readiness. The Security Council is cognizant of this. Resorting to percentages on this question is a contravention of international law and a ruse. Indeed, it is an unethical procedure, making human beings into numbers. Iraq rejects it on ethical and legal grounds and reaffirms the obligation on both parties to inform the International Committee of the Red Cross at the same time of the names of all non-registered prisoners.

"4. Resolution 598 is a peace plan. The peace plan must be discussed between the two parties, under the auspices of the secretary-general, in all its elements. The question of the current presence of the military forces of the two parties on the ground, which is a result of the situation existing when the ceasefire came into effect, is one of the topics open to discussion. The Iranian side's position that would remove this or that topic from the course of the negotiations is incomprehensible unless this is a reaffirmation of its familiar selective approach. This strengthens our suspicions that the Iranian side wants to achieve partial steps that suit it politically and give it freedom to prolong the state of no peace, no war, and exploit it for blackmail and threats to security and stability in the region.

"The elements of the peace plan are interconnected and it is not possible to deal with one to the exclusion on the others. The military presence of the forces on the ground is linked up with many things, on which mutual understanding must be reached in the context of the shared understanding of the peace that exists pursuant to Resolution 598. Their isolation as insisted upon by the Iranian side arouses many doubts and justifies our call for a comprehensive package approach reflecting a balance of the parties' obligations, undertakings and legitimate rights.

"Iraq calls on the international community to understand this side as explained by the president of the Republic of Iraq in his speech of 17 July 1989. Iraq, in stressing the necessity of respecting the agreement of 8 August 1988 and the principle and method of direct negotiation and the comprehensive package, affirms its sincere will to arrive at a comprehensive and lasting peace between the two countries. It is clear that this invitation does not imply special prerogatives for Iraq at Iran's expense.

"5. Iraq once again affirms its will to continue the negotiation process under the auspices of the secretary-general of the United Nations. If the Iranian side is serious about arriving at a comprehensive and lasting peaceful settlement, it has only to respond to the secretary-general's invitation and concur with Iraq's wish to sit down at the negotiating table under the auspices of the secretary-general and enter into genuine direct negotiations with a view to arriving at common understanding of the peace plan and the positioning of the necessary mechanisms for its implementing. Resorting to fallacy-filled propaganda campaigns that turn the facts topsy-turvy is an indication of lack of a serious and sincere will to achieve a comprehensive and lasting peace."

**Shamir Office Denies Receiving Secret Bush Letter**
*TA2007043789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Excerpt] The Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem is denying it has received a secret letter from U.S. President George Bush.

The response came following a radio report in the United States that Bush had sent a message calling on Israel to forswear annexation, stop settlements, and renew studies at Arab schools in the territories.

The Prime Minister's Office told the Voice of Israel that the last letter from President Bush, received 3 weeks ago, was a friendly one that stated support for the Israeli peace initiative, but in Washington the White House spokesman confirmed the letter.

**Pazner 'Categorically' Denies 'Arafat Murder Plan**
*TA2007055889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Jul 89 p 1*

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Excerpts] Kuwait—Plots by Israel and by Syrian and Iranian-protected groups to assassinate PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat have been uncovered, Arab groups claimed yesterday. [passage omitted]

Avi Pazner, the prime minister's media adviser, last night categorically denied the AL-SIYASAH report. "The Oriental imagination is working overtime," he said, adding; "I'm glad to see that AL-SIYASAH has found the way to entertain its readers on these hot summer nights."

**Shamir Conveys 'Courtesy' Message to Mubarak**
*TA1907165089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Israel undertakes, vis-a-vis Egypt, to continue the peace process in the Middle East. This was stated in a message from Prime Minister Shamir to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak relayed by Minister Arye Der'i, who is currently in Cairo. In the course of the meeting with Minister Der'i, the Egyptian president said that the Likud's braces will make the peace process more difficult. Our correspondent Yaron Enosh reports from Cairo:

[Begin recording] The Egyptian president received the Israeli interior minister and Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef [the spiritual leader of SHAS, the Torah-Observing Sephardim Party] in his resort residence in Burj al-'Arab near Alexandria. At the beginning of the meeting Minister Der'i handed Husni Mubarak a message from Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. In the message Shamir expresses Israel's general commitment to the continuation of the peace process in the region, together with congratulations to Egypt on having resumed its place in the center of the Arab world. The message handed to the Egyptian president was mainly a courtesy message.

In the course of the talk, Mubarak repeated the Egyptian side's commitment to the continuation of the peace process. Like his foreign minister and political adviser, Husni Mubarak expressed concern over the braces fastened to the government's decision by the Likud Central Committee.

The talk also dealt with SHAS' position on the peace issue. Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef made it clear to the Egyptian president that peace requires the taking of risks and the making of concessions. The Israeli interior minister again told the Egyptian president that the address in Israel for contacts on the peace issue is Prime Minister Shamir and the national unity government.

At the end of the meeting the Egyptians refused to comment on the content of the talk. In contrast, Interior Minister Der'i said that this talk, like his previous ones, was good. [end recording]

**Mubarak Raises Proposals to 'Break Impasse'**
*TA2007055589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Jul 89 pp 1, 12*

[Report by David Makovsky]

[Text] Alexandria—Egyptian President Husni Mubarak told Interior Minister Arye Der'i here yesterday that the way to break the impasse over the Israeli diplomatic initiative is to include two prominent U.S. Palestinian academics in negotiations about elections and as participants in an interim settlement, THE JERUSALEM POST learned from reliable sources. The sources say this idea was the main point made by Mubarak at the meeting.

Der'i told Mubarak that he would forward the idea to Shamir. After the meeting, Der'i told reporters that Mubarak offered "practical ideas" to get the peace process moving, but he did not elaborate.

The two academics suggested by Mubarak are reportedly Professor Edward Said of Columbia University and Ibrahim Abu Lughod of Northwestern University. They are both members of the Palestine National Congress [PNC] and both met with former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz last year. Israel has refused to meet with PNC members, contending that would violate its commitment not to speak with the PLO.

The aim of Mubarak's proposal is to convince West Bank Palestinians that the Israeli diplomatic initiative is not a ruse intended to drive a wedge between them and Palestinians abroad. At the same time, Egyptians wish to assuage Israeli fears about dealing directly with the PLO.

In the hour-and-20-minute meeting with the Egyptian president at one of his summer residences, Burj al-Arab, and in a meeting with presidential adviser Usamah

al-Baz Tuesday, Der'i said it would be unwise for Egypt to press Israel on the "10 questions" that were transmitted to Israel last month regarding clarifications of the peace initiative.

Der'i told the Egyptians that given the present composition of the national unity government, the answers that Egypt would receive would not be to its liking. He urged that Egypt press the Palestinians to accept the principal of elections first and then let them negotiate the details with Israel afterward. [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 20 July broadcasts a live telephone interview with Interior Minister Arye Der'i by Dan Shilon and Goni Mardor on Der'i's Cairo meeting yesterday with President Husni Mubarak. Asked about Mubarak's response to a proposed summit meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Der'i replies: "I believe that although he did not make an immediate decision, President Mubarak's response did not reject it; however, he believes that the meeting must be worked out at the experts level in order to be fruitful."]

The Egyptians did not allow Israeli reporters near the meeting venue nor did they allow Israeli photographers to take pictures of Mubarak with Sephardi leader Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef. This has led to speculation that the Egyptians wanted to keep the visit low profile. Egyptian TV was also barred from photographing the meeting.

After the meeting, Yosef, Der'i and their entourage drove 100 km to recite psalms at the grave site of Ya'aqov Abu-Hatzera, a Morrocan rabbinic figure who died en route to Israel in the last century.

### Likud Ministers Meet in 'Foul' Climate

*TA1907170189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] The Likud ministers' meeting ended approximately 1 hour ago. During that meeting, the prime minister announced that he would not submit a compromise proposal to resolve the coalition crisis for the Cabinet's discussion. If the Alignment raises such a proposal, all the Likud ministers will be convoked to debate it. Moshe Hakohen reports from the Knesset:

[Begin recording] Unprecedentedly sharp verbal exchanges were traded today during the Likud ministers' meeting. In the words of Minister Moda'i, the meeting was conducted in a foul atmosphere. Mr Shamir accused Minister Sharon of leaking information and creating an unpleasant atmosphere. Sharon reacted by saying: I despise your remarks, I ridicule them. The prime minister replied: Let us see who will have the last laugh.

Minister Sharon, who is the chairman of the Likud Central Committee, attacked what he termed the attempts of Likud ministers' to bypass the Central Committee's resolutions by coming up with smart-alecky formulations. He emphasized that he would not allow this. He also criticized the contacts the prime minister and the foreign minister hold with Palestinian personalities from the territories, claiming that such contacts encourage terrorism and legitimize the PLO's representatives in the territories. The prime minister replied by saying that these contacts do not conflict with the Likud Central Committee's resolutions and will continue. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 19 July reports on the Likud ministers' meeting which was still in progress, adding that "it was stated that what was referred to was only daily contacts with Palestinians from the territories, not official negotiations."]

In response to a question by Minister David Levi, the prime minister promised that no negotiations will be conducted with the representatives from the territories on the implementation of the election initiative before terror and violence are quelled. Minister Levi also demanded an answer to his question on whether Mr Shamir had indeed set up a team consisting of Ministers Nisim, Meridor, and Olmert to work out a compromise formula with the Alignment. He insisted that all the Likud ministers should participate in consultations on the matter. The prime minister clarified that no such team was established, and announced that all the Likud ministers will be summoned to debate any compromise formula that the Alignment proposes to end the crisis. [end recording]

[In its interim report at 1500 GMT on 19 July, Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew adds that "Mr Shamir said there is no justification for the dissolution of the government. He noted that the religious parties are disinclined to form a narrow-based government. Furthermore, he added, no contacts to examine this possibility have been held."]

### Labor 'Waiting for Shamir' To Resolve 'Crisis'

*TA1907180489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] The Labor Party ministers this afternoon decided they will not initiate any proposal in the next Cabinet meeting on the political plan and the Likud's braces. Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres believes that Prime Minister Shamir should consolidate a compromise proposal which will be raised in the Cabinet meeting. Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports:

[Begin recording] [Kohen] A decisive majority emerged in the Labor Party ministers' meeting today in favor of the proposal to approve the announcement made by the prime minister in the last Cabinet meeting that the peace initiative, as endorsed in the Knesset, is valid, and the binding decision is the one adopted by the government on 14 May, without deletions, additions, or amendments. As for the Cabinet meeting this coming Sunday, it was agreed that the person who should raise a draft proposal on the commitment to the peace initiative is Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. If the prime minister does raise such a proposal, the Alignment ministers will reconvene before the Cabinet meeting to discuss it.

At the same time, the emerging position is that the Alignment ministers will vote for the prime minister's proposal so as to neutralize the Levi-Moda'i-Sharon trio. In other words, everybody is waiting for Shamir to resolve the crisis within the government. Minister Rafi Edri expressed optimism about the chances of resolving the coalition crisis.

[Edri] The Labor Party can no longer drag matters out. It is faced with two alternatives: It must either decide that it will immediately withdraw from the government, as I suggested at the time, or it must adopt a proposal which can meet our demands and strengthen the peace initiative approved by the Cabinet. I discussed this with Mr. Peres. I am trying to explain the important components in this proposal which I also brought up before our ministers this afternoon. I hope that by Sunday the picture will change and the crisis may be resolved so that we will be able to turn our minds to handling the important issues on the agenda of the Israeli Government and society.

[Kohen] Why was Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres opposed to a vote in the last Cabinet meeting? Because Shamir made an oral statement, and Peres was surprised that the prime minister had not consulted him as called for by the coalition agreement, and wanted to scrutinize the proposal. The Alignment is now awaiting the prime minister's draft proposal, following which its ministers will discuss their vote in the Cabinet. [end recording]

### Arens—More 'Terror' Since Peace Initiative

*TA1907115789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Arens reiterated that no negotiations are taking place with the PLO. Arens asserted that the rate of terror has increased since the government launched its peace initiative. In April, 10 Jews were killed; in May, 11 Jews were killed; and in June, 14 Jews were killed.

Our Knesset correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that Foreign Minister Arens made these statements at the Knesset plenum in reply to a motion for the agenda submitted by Alignment Knesset Member Hayim Ramon.

Ramon claimed that the Begin administration had negotiated with the PLO through U.S. mediation, and had thus achieved a long period of quiet along the northern border. Ramon also said that Begin had negotiated with some of the more crazy terror organizations.

### 'Combined Effort' Needed To Ensure Elections Plan

*TA1907174189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Foreign Minister Arens has drawn criticism from a statement at the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee of the Knesset this week that Palestinians with whom he spoke are afraid that candidates in the proposed elections not supported by the PLO will be killed. Reporter David Ze'ev asked the foreign minister that if this is true, who are Israel's partners in the territories for negotiations?

[Begin recording] [Arens] Our partner in the territories are the people who live in the territories. And if anybody suggests that we should surrender to terror, that just because the PLO is murdering Palestinians living in the area we should now make an agreement with them and surrender to their demands, that's not the way in a democracy. Maybe that's the way things are done in some totalitarian countries, but that's not the way they're done here. And as I just said in the Knesset, that's not the road to peace, that's not in Israel's best interests, and it's not in the best interests of the Arab population living in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

[Ze'ev] How can you allay the fears of those people living in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza? Will Israel protect them?

[Arens] It will have to be a combined effort between Israel and the population in the area to let democracy have its way, to provide a chance for free and democratic elections.

[Ze'ev] Do you see the motion presented here in the Knesset by Hayim Ramon, the head of the Labor caucus in the Knesset, as yet another effort by Labor to split the government?

[Arens] Well, I wouldn't characterize it as such, although I suppose there are—I know there are—people in the Labor Party who never wanted to get into the government and think that they may have an opportunity now to leave the government. But as far as I know at the present time, Labor is a member of the coalition. It is a senior coalition partner, and I think that if Hayim Ramon wanted to leave the government, he would probably find better ways of doing it than raising the issue here in the Knesset. [end recording]

### Criminals in Territories To Be Barred From Israel

*TA1907145689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Excerpt] The police affairs minister announced in the Knesset that from now on residents of the territories who have committed a criminal or a terrorist offense will be barred entry into Israel. He replied to eight motions on the Knesset agenda in the wake of the murder of a building contractor in Gan Yavne last week. Minister Bar-Lev called on employers in Israel to treat Arab workers with both respect and suspicion, and to carefully check out those they employ.

During the debate Tzahi Hanegbi of the Likud demanded that capital punishment be meted out to terrorists since, so he claimed, this is the people's wish. Hayim Ramon of the Alignment suggested that the territories be closed off, and that laborers from the territories not be allowed to work within the Green Line boundaries. Rehav'am Ze'evi of Moledet charged that the government is stammering, confused, and paralyzed. Menahem Porush of Agudat Yisra'el claimed that leftists in Israel serve as advocates for the PLO.

The proposals were passed from the plenum onto the Knesset House Committee where the committee that will discuss them will be determined. [passage omitted]

**Janin Youth Dies in Clash With Border Police**
*TA1907170489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1630 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] A Palestinian youth from the Janin refugee camp died today. He was shot during an incident involving a border policeman. Khadr 'Ali Yusuf Jisrah attacked the policeman and tried to flee. The policeman followed the procedures regarding the detention of a suspect in accordance with the orders and regulations. In the course of that process, the youth was wounded. He later died of his wounds in the hospital.

Military sources have reported that the youth had long been on the security forces' wanted list. A curfew was imposed on the Janin refugee camp.

### Israeli Radio Reports Devaluation of Dinar

*JN1907132289 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0930 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Despite Jordanian Government efforts to halt the decline in the exchange rate of the dinar against the U.S. dollar, it has been forced to reduce the value of the dinar by 2 percent.

The Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] has fixed the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar at 572 fils, while CBJ Deputy Governor Muhammad Salih al-Hurani has denied that any change has occurred in the policy pursued by the CBJ since 29 May. He added: The whole thing pertains to a reconsideration of the exchange rate of the dinar against other foreign currencies.

Reports from Amman said that the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar on the black market reached 760 fils—30 percent higher than the official price—on the eve of the talks with the Paris Club for creditor nations to reschedule a part of Jordan's foreign debt, which amounts to $8 billion.

Today, Jordanian Finance Minister Basil Jardanah began a series of talks with the government representatives of creditor nations with the aim of rescheduling Jordan's debts. The Jordanian minister said that his country's burden is second only to Israel's in the world's foreign debts, in terms of population. He added that a noticeable decrease in Arab aid and remittances from Jordanian expatriates has occurred. Hence, the Jordanian desire to reschedule the repayment of $700 million of the debts due and payable to governments and commercial banks during 1989-90, the minister said.

The last analysis of the foreign debt showed that the share of each Jordanian citizen of these debts amounts to $ 2,800. The IMF, which supports the economic austerity program which Jordan has decided to adopt decided to grant Jordan loans amounting to $67 million during the next 18 months, in addition to other loans totaling $150 million that will be granted to Jordan by the World Bank to help investment and encourage private sector exports.

In a related development, reports about the deterioration of the health of King Husayn and his intention to travel to the United States to receive medical treatment following a heart ailment led to a decrease in faith in the Jordanian dinar and caused its price to fall in money markets.

### 'Official Source' Denies Report

*JN1907134889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] We have just received the following item:

An official source has stated the following:

Israel radio, citing Israeli press reports, reported a fabricated news item that there is a policy to change the Jordanian dinar to a Jordanian pound. Apart from the fact that this piece of news is completely untrue, its goals and intentions are clearly known to the brother citizens. Also known are the aims of the intense campaign waged by Israeli media against Jordan lately to serve its expansionist aims in response to Jordan's clear pan-Arab stands, to shake the citizens' confidence in their country and economy, and to confuse opinion on the general situation in the country.

We are fully confident that our citizens here and abroad and our kinfolk in the occupied territories are fully aware of the aims of this suspect Israeli campaign, whose intentions are known to everyone.

### Editorial Decries 'Israeli Campaign'

*JN2007071489 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Jul 89 pp 1, 19*

[Editorial: "An Exposed Israeli Campaign"]

[Text] Within the context of its continuous, deceptive campaign that has been going on for a long time against this steadfast Arab fortress, every now and then all kinds of Israeli media fabricate false news aimed at shaking the citizens' confidence in their country and spreading confusion at home and abroad over the soundness of the economic situation in Jordan.

It is noticeable that this false campaign intensified recently and became a semidaily exposed series, whose boring and fake episodes coincide with developments in the local economic and monetary topics and which falls within the framework of an exposed attempt to take advantage of the pressing difficulties and exaggerate them to the greatest possible degree.

Yesterday, Israel's radio, which is historically expert in spreading falsehoods and distributing lies, once again fabricated news on a Jordanian intention to change the Jordanian dinar and give it a new name. Those who fabricated such a news item did not pay attention to the silliness of such a lie and the shallowness of its content.

We do not have to be very wise to understand the meaning of such Israeli falsehoods, which concentrate these days on harming the public confidence in the Jordanian dinar and national economy. We realize that the real targets of this campaign are Jordan's pan-Arab role and the role played by the Jordanian political leadership to unite Arabs and harden Arab demands to regain territory, legitimate rights, and holy places.

Jordan, which has become experienced in the Zionist media's malicious methods of intrigue and fabrication, will not be harmed by the counterfeit Israeli campaign. That campaign will not push it to abandon its vanguard pan-Arab role or make it accept what it has always rejected. On the contrary, this dark campaign will

strengthen its belief in the soundness of its stands and the importance of its pan-Arab duty, which it carries out with full capability and courage.

## Foreign Ministers Arrive in Amman for ACC Meeting

### Iraqi, North Yemeni Ministers Arrive

*JN1907114489 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Excerpts] Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr 'Abd-al-Karim al-'Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR], arrived in Amman this morning to participate in the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] foreign ministers' meetings to start in Amman tomorrow.

'Aziz expressed, on his and Dr al-'Iryani's behalf, their joy over visiting Jordan and its capital, Amman, which he described as the ancient Arab capital. [passage omitted]

'Aziz and al-'Iryani were received by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Mu'tasim al-Bilbaysi, secretary general of the foreign ministry; a number of ranking officials in the ministry, and the Iraqi and YAR ambassadors in Amman.

### 'Aziz Makes Arrival Statement

*JN1907120589 Baghdad INA in English 1140 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Amman, July 19, INA—Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Mr. Tariq 'Aziz arrived here today leading a delegation to participate in the two-day meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) foreign ministers due to start tomorrow.

Mr. 'Aziz had left Baghdad for Amman earlier today. Mr. 'Aziz told INA and Baghdad T.V. that the meeting would discuss the necessary means to implement the paper adopted by the ACC leaders in Alexandria summit which included fields of cooperation and coordination among the foreign ministries in the ACC member states.

He added that Iraq would introduce ideas and proposals at the meeting and they would be discussed in a collective framework to reach a joint formula among the ACC member states in this respect.

Mr. 'Aziz said that the means due to be endorsed by the ACC foreign ministers would be discussed at the meeting of the ACC ministerial committee due to be held in Baghdad next month in order to introduce them to the coming summit conference of the ACC leaders due to be held next September in Sanaa.

In Amman Airport Mr. 'Aziz said that the ACC summit which was held in Alexandria endorsed a paper related to the fields of cooperation among the ACC foreign ministries.

He added that the ACC leaders had asked the foreign ministers to meet to discuss the requried preparations to implement that paper concerning coordination and cooperation among the four foreign ministries.

Iraq's deputy premier and foreign minister said that, during the meeting of foreign ministers Arab, regional and international political situation of joint interest would be discussed.

He expressed thanks and appreciation to Jordan for hosting this meeting and said "we feel happy when we are in this Arab capital (Amman) whose people, king and government are highly respected by us".

Mr. 'Aziz described the statements of Ari'el Sharon to assassinate Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine, as the most arrogant statements aired by Zionist officials. Mr. 'Aziz said that those statements reflected the aggressive and terrorist policy adopted by the Zionist entity.

Mr. 'Aziz added that this policy is well known and it is the main difficulty that hampers all attempts to find a just settlement for the Palestinian issue.

The Iraqi foreign minsiter called on the international community to decisively and firmly face such a policy and said that the Arabs in the meantime have to reinforce their solidarity to confront this policy and its impacts as well as the consequent practical measures that might be carried out by the Zionists not only to harm the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman and President of the State of Palestine Mr. Yasir 'Arafat but also to harm the Palestinian issue as a whole.

Concerning Yitzhaq Shamir's plan to carry out elections in the occupied West Bank, Mr. 'Aziz said that we have an Arab attitude vis-a-vis this issue and it was adopted in the Casablanca summit conference.

The summit conference, Mr. 'Aziz said, had unanimously agreed on rejecting Shamir's plan because it was aimed at maintaining the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The (ACC) member states have the same attitude as well because they effectively participated in formulating the attitude which was unanimously endorsed in the Casablanca summit conference, Mr. 'Aziz said.

### 'Aziz Decries Sharon Remark

*JN2007080689 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Jul 89 p 1*

[Text] Amman—AL-RA'Y—Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the statement by Israeli Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el

Sharon calling for the assassination of Yasir 'Arafat, the president of the State of Palestine, reflects the aggressive terrorist policy of the ruling leadership in the Zionist entity.

The statement, he said, aims at aborting Arab and international efforts toward a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement, which is desired by the peoples of the region.

'Aziz called on the international community to confront this aggressive policy firmly and said that we, as an Arab nation, should increase our awareness and bolster our common action to confront this policy and commit ourselves to taking the appropriate practical measures to face up to the hostile Zionist schemes.

On Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's plan to hold elections in the occupied Arab territories, 'Aziz said: We have a unified Arab position on this plan—namely, rejecting it because it is nothing but a false plan aimed not at achieving the just and desired peace but at perpetuating the Zionist occupation. The Arab Cooperation Council countries, being part of the Arab nation, adopts the same position, he said, adding that these countries contributed to the adoption of this Arab position during the recent Casablanca meetings.

### Egypt's Al-Majid Arrives

*JN1907195889 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Amman this evening to participate in the meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] foreign ministers. He was received at the airport by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; a senior Foreign Ministry official; and the Jordanian and Egyptian ambassadors in Cairo and Amman.

Dr 'Abd-al-Majid made the following statement to journalists:

['Abd-al-Majid begin recording] The ACC foreign ministers meet in Amman in implementation of the Alexandria summit resolutions. We are pleased at meeting the brothers to achieve coordination among the ACC Foreign Ministries.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet with the brother foreign ministers and to lay down the mechanisms that will facilitate the work of the foreign ministries and achieve the objective of the ACC.

I am pleased to visit to Amman and to meet with my brother, friend, and colleague Marwan al-Qasim as well as the Iraqi and Yemeni foreign ministers.

We have a great deal to discuss in our interest and that of the Arab cause. [end recording]

### Prince Hasan Receives Ministers

*JN1907203489 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received at the Hashemite Royal Court this evening the foreign ministers of the member states of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC]. The audience was attended by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Court, and the private adviser of His Majesty the king. It was also attended by ambassadors of the ACC countries in Amman.

### Al-Qasim Says Shamir Plan Blocks Peace Process

*JN2007082689 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Jul 89 pp 1, 15*

[By Sa'd al-Silawi]

[Excerpts] Amman—In exclusive statements to SAWT AL-SHA'B, Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the recent summit of leaders of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] member states in Alexandria approved a paper presented for consideration. The decision was made for the foreign ministers of the ACC countries to meet to lay down a practical mechanism to begin serious coordination in the work of the foreign ministries of the four countries, he said. [passage omitted]

Answering a question by SAWT AL-SHA'B on the resolutions of the Paris summit of industrialized countries, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: The resolutions issued by the Paris summit were marked by seriousness. For the first time, we have seen Europe and the United States taking a united stand toward our Middle Eastern issues, whether the Palestine question or the Lebanese crisis. [passage omitted]

Answering a question on whether other Arab states, such as Sudan, have applied to join the [ACC] grouping, Minister al-Qasim said: There is interest on the part of the four states and all other Arab states. When we in the four states drew up the ACC charter, we left room for any Arab state to participate. However, there must be a common ground with these four states to make a contribution and proceed with them. That is to say, entering the ACC involves two things—receiving and and offering benefits. When stability is restored to Sudan, there will be enough room to study these things.

Al-Qasim also said: Certain Arab states showed an interest in knowing the structure of the ACC, and they had a positive interest. We in the ACC seek unity, and at the end there must be a meeting among all Arab states.

Regarding the escalation in the Israeli acts of oppression against Palestinian citizens, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: The Casablanca summit resolutions were very clear. They emphasized support for the PLO, which rejected Shamir's plan to hold elections. Not

only Arabs, but most countries in the world are convinced that since the PLO represents the Palestinian people and rights; since it is recognized as the side authorized and charged with holding any negotiations relating to these rights, why should secondary elections be held while there is the PLO, which is the main side and the only side authorized with negotiating? No one will negotiate with Israel except the PLO.

Minister al-Qasim described Shamir plan as a process aimed at blocking the Palestinian peace process.

### Syrian Bombardment of Eastern Areas Spreads

*NC1907220789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Excerpt] Syrian attacks on various eastern areas are continuing from Syrian gun emplacements in upper al-Matn and West Beirut. The citizens are urged to exercise the greatest possible degree of vigilance and caution in view of Syrian intentions to cause the situation to escalate.

Here is an account of the security situation since 2245 tonight. At 2245 the northern al-Matn coast was shelled from positions in Sawfar and Ru'aysat Sawfar in the montain area. Al-Ashrafiyah was shelled by 120-mm artillery from positions in West Beirut. At 2255 the vicinity of Beirut port was the target of a number of shells. At 2300 the Syrian shelling of al-Ashrafiyah's central and outlying areas was intensified. Several shells fell on the al-Matn coast at the same time. At 2305 Syrian rocket launchers directed their fire at the Kasrawan coast. The northern al-Matn coast was the target of Syrian 130-mm artillery shells fired from positions in upper al-Matn. Central al-Matn and the vicinity of Beirut port were bombarded at the same time.

At about 2315 the Syrian shelling of residential areas in the coastal area of northern al-Matn was stepped up and continued until 2320. After that the Syrian bombardment of northern al-Matn and al-Ashrafiyah continued intermittently. Shortly before 2330, the Kasrawan coast was shelled from Syrian emplacements in Tarshish, Falugha, 'Aynturah in al-Matn, and 'Ayn al-Ruhban in upper al-Matn. At the same time several shells fell in al-Ashrafiyah. This coincided with clashes on the Sodeco, Primo, and al-Barjawi lines between the Lebanese Army and the Syrian occupation forces and their supporters in West Beirut. At 2331 two Syrian rocket launchers fired their missiles at the al-Matn coast. At the same time the bombardment spread to upper Kasrawan. At about 2340 the coast of northern al-Matn was shelled once more. At 2345 the outlying areas of al-Ashrafiyah and the vicinity of Beirut port were shelled. The bombardment of upper Kasrawan continued. At the time of this newscast we were informed tht the shelling had spread to residential areas in central and upper Kasrawan. [passage omitted]

### West Beirut Target of Heavy Shelling

*NC2007065989 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Excerpts] Beirut and a number of other areas lived through the most violent exchange of artillery and rocket fire last night. The people spent the night in shelters. Hundreds of shells fell in residential neighborhoods, causing fires and destruction in houses and buildings. The debris covered several streets. The deterioration began at about 2200 yesterday. More than 300 shells fell on the line extending from the military beach and 'Ayn al-Muraysah. This is in addition to hundreds of shells which fell in the areas of Burj al-Murr, the Holiday Inn, the Sports City, al-Qantari, Bi'r Hasan, the municipal recreation field, Unesco, al-Ramlah al-Bayda', Corniche al-Mazra'ah, al-Hilu Barracks, Mar Ilyas, Tallat al-Khayyat, and al-Mazra'ah. At about midnight, the shelling from artillery emplacements in the eastern areas was concentrated on the Ra's Bayrut area, where several shells fell in the vicinity of the traffic police headquarters on Verdun street. A policeman from the Hamzah family was wounded by a shell which fell on Salim Salam Bridge in Burj Abu Haydar. Another wounded person was taken to al-Maqasid Hospital.

The shelling also extended to the southern suburb where shells rained on the airport road and Harat Hurayk areas. Meanwhile, seven shells fell in the areas of al-Rawshah, Saqiyah al-Janzir, and al-Tariq al-Jadidah. [passage omitted]

The indiscriminate shelling was accompanied by clashes involving the use of automatic, rocket, and artillery weapons on the confrontation lines in Beirut and the mountain. Shells continued to fall until early this morning. [passage omitted]

### Syrian Bombardment of Kasrawan Resumes 20 Jul

*NC2007083289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] After bombarding the residential areas in B'abda, al-Ashrafiyah, al-Hazimiyah, al-Matn, and Kasrawan all night, the Syrian artillery resumed their acts of aggression at 0900 by shelling the residential areas along the Kasrawan coast and as far as the Jubayl coast. Several heavy-caliber shells fell on these areas from Syrian emplacements in al-Mughithi. The Syrian occupation army then shelled the areas of B'abdat and Brummana.

REUTER NEWS AGENCY has reported that thousands of Beirut residents spent the night in shelters to get away from the shelling. The agency pointed out that the bombardment started when Syrian artillery in West Beirut and on the mountain opened fire at the Christian areas to prevent a cargo ship from docking. The agency cited security sources as saying that the ship, which was carrying supplies, managed to dock despite the Syrian shelling and sea blockade.

### Casualty Toll in W. Beirut Shelling Updated

*NC2007111089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Excerpts] Citizens are moving cautiously on Beirut streets for fear of a sudden flare-up following a night of heavy shelling which extended to most areas in Beirut and the southern suburb. [passage omitted]

According to a preliminary toll, 7 people were killed and 46 others were wounded in West Beirut alone. [passage omitted]

**RFL on Bombardment of 'Free Areas'**
*NC2007060689 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Excerpts] From 2200 last night until approximately 0300 this morning, the free areas came under violent and concentrated Syrian bombardment. The appropriate weapons were used to return fire. [passage omitted]

The acts of aggression caused several casualties and fires. The following have been identified as wounded by the bombardment: Norma Milhim Sa'b, Hana Yusuf Jirjis, Ibrahim Yusuf Jirjis, Nabihah Jirjis, George Iskandar Madi, George Shakar, Khalil Mardini, Antoinette Sa'b, Nicola 'Arif, and Rabi' Najjar. The Lebanese Army returned fire from the artillery and rocket launchers stationed in West Beirut, 'Aynturah al-Matn, Hammana, al-Mughithi, 'Uyun al-Ruhban, Tarshish, Sil'ata, and some areas in al-Batrun. [passage omitted]

**Resistance Fighters Cause Explosion, Casualties**
*NC1907160589 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] This morning resistance fighters detonated an explosive charge near a roadblock manned by the occupation forces near al- Hamra', in the western sector of the occupied border strip. The explosion destroyed the roadblock's fortifications and killed or wounded some of the soldiers. Subsequently, a joint force of the occupation troops and the agent militia searched the area and discovered a second charge, which it defused.

A resistance fighter was slightly wounded when a group of resistance fighters clashed with enemy troops and their agents who had ambushed the group in Wadi al-Saluqi. Enemy losses in this clash could not be determined.

**Organization Claims Anti-Syria Operations**
*NC2007101989 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] The 16 January Organization for the Liberation of Tripoli has announced its responsibility for carrying out two operations against Syrian troops and their agents in Tripoli. The first was carried out at 0030 in the morning against a Ba'thist center in the al-Mina' area, leaving two persons wounded. The second operation was carried out at 0400 against a Syrian roadblock manned by the Syrian troops at the port's quarantine. A member of the special units was wounded as a result. Immediately afterward, the Syrian troops mounted a storming and arrest campaign in the neighborhood.

**Lebanese, Syrian Officials Meet 19 Jul**
*NC1907150689 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] A meeting was held in al-Diman today between Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and his beatitude Maronite Patriarch Mar Nasrallah Butrus Sfayr. During the 2-hour meeting they discussed political and security developments, in addition to the Arab Tripartite Committee efforts on Lebanon and the role of the Chamber of Deputies in resolving the Lebanese crisis.

Following the meeting, Speaker al-Husayni underlined the importance of Bkirki's national role in preserving co-existence. He also called on the international community to pressure Israel into withdrawing its forces from south Lebanon. Speaker al-Husayni expressed the hope that the Arab Committee efforts will lead to political and security steps to end the crisis. He drew attention to the danger of having the Gulf parties move their conflict to Lebanon.

Speaker al-Husayni then went to Ihdin where he met with former President Sulayman Franjiyah. Then at 1400 today a high level Syrian delegation joined the al-Husayni-Franjiyah meeting. The Syrian delegation included General Mustafa Talas, deputy prime minister and defense minister; Deputy Chief of Staff Major General 'Ali Aslan; Major General Sa'id Bayraqdar, commander of the Syrian forces in Lebanon; Brigadier General Sulayman al-Hasan, commander of the Syrian forces operating in the north; and Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad al-Sha'ar, officer in charge of security and intelligence in the north.

**Al-Huss Appeals to Arab Committee To Act Quickly**
*NC2007101389 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Following a night of shelling and destruction in Beirut and the suburb, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss sent a cable this morning to the members of the Higher Arab Committee in which he said: Beirut and its suburbs have lived through a terrifying night of savage, indiscriminate artillery shelling. The innocent people in Lebanon face a death sentence every day. Those who do not die by chance feel as if their lives are at risk. There are some in Lebanon who are not afraid to kill people every day or even every hour, as if they are not ashamed of killing all the people under false and misleading slogans.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: The valiant Lebanese citizen, who is used to drawing hope from despair and disappointment by insisting on standing fast and holding onto life, no longer can find hope except in your auspicious initiative to save him.

Prime Minister al-Huss continued: In the name of the innocent people of Lebanon, in the name of its children, old people, and women, in the name of all the peaceful people in it, and in the name of the displaced families, deserted houses, and broken souls, we hope you will be able to speed up the accomplishment of the noble, humanitarian, and pan-Arab mission which you are undertaking to help the Lebanese stop the language of weapons and open the way to political solutions which are the only way to salvation. Any day that you can cut

short the voyage of pain Lebanon's citizens are suffering will be an invaluable accomplishment in the national, pan-Arab, and humanitarian sense of the word.

The prime minister concluded: Lebanon's tragedy has reached such an acute stage that requires overstepping all considerations i.. demanding salvation for Lebanon and its people.

### PSP Delegations Reportedly Visit Israel 6 Times

*JN1907204689 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 18 Jul 89 p 19*

[Text] Tunis—AL-QABAS—The PLO's leadership has conveyed to Arab foreign minstries, including the Syrian Foreign Ministry, a list of Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] members who visited Israel during the last 5 months.

Palestinian sources told AL-QABAS that six PSP delegations have visited the occupied Arab territories at successive dates since the beginning of clashes in March this year between General Michel 'Awn's forces and those allied with Syria.

The sources added that an Arab leader apologized for not receiving [PSP leader] Walid Junblatt upon visiting an Arab capital in order to avoid embarrassment.

## Leaders React to Recent Explosions in Mecca

### Al-Huss Denounces Bombings in Cable

*NC1207085989 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 12 Jul 89*

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has sent a cable to King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia denouncing the explosions that took place in Holy Mecca in the past 2 days and expressing regret at the casualties caused by the explosions.

Meanwhile, Dr al-Huss has declined to receive congratulations on 'Id al-Adha because of the difficult conditions the country is experiencing.

However, Dr al-Huss has offered best wishes to the Muslims and the Lebanese in general, hoping that the homeland will have regained its health and the people their dignity by the next holidays.

### Muslim Figures Condemn Violence

*NC1207071489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 12 Jul 89*

[Text] Brother Sayyid Husayn al-Musawi [hizballah figure and leader of Islamic Amal Movement] has asserted that those who are killing and injuring Muslims in Holy Mecca today are those who killed them before in the same holy place. He added that an impartial and logical observer cannot be deceived by the clumsy organization of this crime, which was carried out with the aim of attributing it to the faithful sons of the Islamic revolution. He said that the believers in one God could not have conceived of such an act, which is the speciality of the Jews and the crusaders who bear Islam a grudge. He declared that everyone must know that Al Sa'ud, the Jews, and the henchmen of Saddam al-Takriti [Husayn] are the ones who volunteered to implement the Zionist scheme to take revenge on the monotheists who are determined, nevertheless, to exonerate themsleves.

Dr 'Ali 'Ammar, political offiical of the Islamic Group, has condemned the bombing in Holy Mecca and accused the U.S. intelligence services which are hostile to Islam and the Muslims of organizing this terrorist act.

Shaykh Ghazi Hanifah, member of the Muslim 'ulema grouping and the Islamic Group, has also condemned the bombing act against the secure mosque of God and said it has been committed by non-Muslim hands that are hostile to Islam and Muslims and that harbor evil intentions toward them.

### IRNA Cites Sha'ban on Blasts

*LD1307163189 Tehran IRNA in English 1604 GMT 13 Jul 89*

[Text] Beirut, July 13, IRNA—Leader of Lebanon's Tawhid [unification] Movement Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban today strongly flayed the Monday night's bomb blasts in Mecca and held the Saudi regime responsible for the hajj bloodshed.

"The act is a crime and its perpetrators the enemies of Islam," said the shaykh in his 'Id al-Adha sermon in Tripoli (N. Lebanon), but added that it cannot be compared to the Wahabis' earlier crime two years ago when they cold-bloodedly slaughtered the guests of Allah near the sacred house.

On July 31, 1987, Saudi security forces burst upon a peaceful rally of pilgrims who were demonstrating their disavowal of infidels, and gunned down over 400 hajis—mostly Iranians—near the Ka'bah where the shedding of even an animal's blood is prohibited.

Shaykh Sha'ban who himself was in that memorable rally and barely escaped Wahhabi savagery, said the Saudi regime committed the biggest crime ever in history to serve their masters.

He said that under security pretext the Saudis this year have hampered about ninety percent of pilgrims from performing the hajj rituals.

"This baseless claim once again shows that the Saudi clan is not competent to administer the holy shrines," stressed Sha'ban and called for the setting up of an independent body of world 'ulema to take care of the Haramayn-Sharifayn [the two holy places].

## Iran

### Paper Calls U.S. Airbus Compensation Offer 'Cheap'

*LD2007101789 Tehran IRNA in English*
*1000 GMT 20 Jul 89*

["KAYHAN INT.: U.S. Compensation Offer Humiliatingly Low"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, July 20, IRNA—The compensation offered by the U.S. Government to families of the Iran Air plane shot down by the American Navy in the Persian Gulf showed how little Iranian lives mattered for Washington, said an Iranian daily.

KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in an editorial Thursday also described the U.S. offer as an attempt to counter the Iranian compensation suit against Washington at the World Court.

The U.S. package calls for $250,000 to be paid out to families of full time workers killed in the July 3, 1988 disaster, and $100,000 to others.

"The last figure is not even a respectable illegal kickback in Washington these days," the paper noted.

"Each life at $100,000 equals the price tag of four Oliver North speeches ($25,000), three speeches by Nancy Reagan ($30,000 per speech plus $10,000 per appearance without a speech) and two by Ronald Reagan ($50,000 per): that is c h e a p." [spacing of preceding word as received]

The Iran Air Airbus A300 with 290 passengers and crew (250 of them Iranians) was shot down by missiles fired by the U.S. Navy's USS Vincennes.

KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL also reminded that Iraq was paying $27 million for the families of 37 crewmen killed in an Iraqi air attack on the USS Stark in the Persian Gulf in 1987—$730,200 per victim.

On the other hand the U.S. Administration's offer amounted to a total of $30 million for the 290 lives.

"According to this formula, an American life is worth three to seven times that of the Iran Air victims," the daily complained.

### KEYHAN HAVAI on Improved Ties With Soviets

*PM1907085489 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian*
*12 Jul 89 pp 1-2*

[Editorial: "The Wounds Will Heal With the Passing of Time and in the Field of Action"]

[Text] Although the people do not have an official hand in the adoption of political stances, as a source of basic social change and as the soul of society—especially a revolutionary society—they do have feelings which indirectly affect foreign relations. People respond to services and favours, independently of political considerations, and their feelings are hurt as a result of wrongdoing, conspiracies, and domineering attitudes. In view of the fact that it takes a long time to change the way a people feel, we must admit that the healing of wounds also takes a long time.

The heart and soul of our people have suffered many wounds during the past 10 years. The West and its allies have, as the main enemies of the revolution, used every means at their disposal to silence the cries of our people and have comitted innumerable crimes against them which will never be forgotten. But there are those who denigrated themselves indirectly in the Iranian people's eyes. The West's animosity toward us is understandable to our people, because the Islamic revolution threatened their illegal gains. This is why they burned the children of this revolution with poison gas, shot them in Mecca, and, violating all international laws of the air and sea, stained the waters of the Persian Gulf with their innocent blood. Western elements shot resistance fighters dead on every street corner—the list goes on. This is why the hatred of our people for the oppressive incumbents of the White House will be eternal.

Amid all this there were those countries which, entirely at odds with their own slogans, exploited the Islamic Republic's worsening relations with the West for their own ends. They undertook actions which could only help the Americans. The Islamic revolution made Muslims sensitive to their main enemy, the United States, but the Kremlin's opportunistic attack on Afghanistan damaged this process. The second opportunistic move came with the U.S. conspiracy to impose the war on Iran. The Kremlin's incorrect perception of American policy caused the USSR in effect to pave the way for in Washington's flame-fanning in the region.

The Iranian people have suffered a great deal in the last 10 years because of Moscow's belated understanding of world equations. The Imam warned the Soviets many times about their being tricked by the Americans in the Iran-Iraq war. But the Kremlin, thinking it could gain something from the issue, said that it would only halt weapon shipments to Iraq if Iran changed its position with regard to the Eastern bloc's objectives of domination.

The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, internal Soviet developments, and the position that Mr Gorbachev has created for his country in world politics undoubtedly constitute grounds for a reappraisal of bilateral relations. But the actions of Mr Gorbachev's predecessors in Moscow have inflicted many wounds on the Iranian people which will take a long time to heal. A reappraisal of political and economic relations with Moscow following the changes that have taken place and a more realistic approach by the Kremlin demands an active foreign policy and the safeguarding of our country's independence.

Now that Moscow's political errors in the region have become clear to all and since Baghdad has become the U.S. political weapon in the area, with the support of Soviet arms—which Moscow cannot hide—the Iranian people expect something more than bilateral relations that will benefit both sides. The Iranian people, guided by their great leader, welcome the changes in Moscow, but you cannot expect the wounds to heal overnight.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, at last week's Friday prayers in Tehran, welcomed the dropping of "Death to the Soviet Union" from the people's slogans. Of course the Iranian people, with the respect that they have for their leaders, will give a positive response to this request. But it would have been better for Moscow's correct behavior to have created changes in the people's feelings.

The Kremlin should know that Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's request to the Iranian people will not have a decisive role in the healing of wounds. What could create respect for the northern neighbor is practical respect for the Iranian people' rights with regard to bilateral ties and also on the international level. Of course in the new phase of relations between Iran and the Soviet Union, there is no room for propaganda on the part of pro-Western elements in Moscow as presented by radio "Society of the Soviet Intellectuals." Under new conditions, the Iranian people will consider the repetition of Western propaganda from the mouths of certain people in Moscow as out-and-out opposition.

## Austria Urged To Explain Arrest Warrant

*LD1907115789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Our spokesman at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs made some remarks in connection with the recent actions of the Austrian Government concerning the Vienna incident, which resulted in three deaths and which severely injured Iran's representative there.

He said: Following the assailant's or assailants' attack on the place of negotiations, the actions of the Austrian Government and police concerning this incident have been very vague. Despite full cooperation with Austrian officials on the part of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Embassy in Vienna, the Austrian officials prevented the ambassador from meeting the injured diplomat. Later, after a strong reminder delivered to the Austrian Government, and after a delay, they were forced to agree to that meeting.

So far the two have met twice. The Iranian ambassador has been ordered to pay daily visits to the injured diplomat. We hope the Austrian Government, on the basis of Vienna convention and international obligations, does not cause any obstacles.

The other ambiguity we have witnessed in the actions of the Austrian police and Government concerns the issue of interrogation of Mr Bozorgyan. The person accompanying the negotiators was not present at the time of the incident. However, immediately after arriving at the place of negotiations he found Mr Ja'fari—Iran's representative who was severely injured—and immediately informed the police. Bozorgyan cooperated with the police, giving them all the information necessary to clarify the incident. Thereafter, any time the police needed further information, he went to the police station and provided them with the required information. Despite the generous cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran's Embassy in Vienna and Mr Bozorgyan and the Austrian police and Government, yesterday afternoon we witnessed the questionable and suspicious move by the Austrian Government. A warrant for the arrest of Mr Bozorgyan and another member of the negotiating team, from whom we have so far no information regarding his health and well-being, was issued. In our opinion the Austrian Government's move is either due to the pressures brought about by the political currents inside that country, which are closely related to the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, or it is due to the weakness of the police and the security officials in finding the perpetrators of that crime. This weakness has forced them to order the arrest based on a hollow reason, namely not properly helping the injured, thereby putting the blame on the victims of that incident.

Therefore, we would like to caution the Austrian Government for such moves, which are probably influenced by the political currents inside that country, or are an attempt to cover up the weakness of the police. We urge the Austrian Government to clearly state the reasons for such illogical moves, and inform the Islamic Republic of Iran's Government about the fate of the other Iranian diplomat. We further urge that government to intensify its efforts to find those responsible for that crime, who consider the process of negotiations and the changing stances of the Kurds vis-a-vis the Islamic Republic of Iran as against their interests.

## KDP Says Iraq Behind Kurdish Leader's Murder

*LD1907191589 Tehran IRNA in English 1832 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Tehran, July 19, IRNA—Iraq's Ba'thist regime was behind the assassination of the leader of (outlawed) Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran Abdolrahman Qasemlu, Iraq's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) charged today.

The KDP Political Bureau's statement said Qasemlu and two of his companions were killed and Iranian envoys were wounded by gunmen while holding talks for solution to the Kurdish issue.

"Such talks are a positive step in this regard and should be continue," it added.

The party also called on the Austrian Government to take speedy measures to arrest and punish the terrorists. It also urged world countries to provide security measures for protection of "Kurdish leaders abroad."

**Velayati Leaves for Pakistan 20 Jul**
*NC2007060089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text) At the invitation of the Pakistani foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Mr Velayati, our foreign minister, left this morning for Pakistan at the head of a delegation. During this visit, he and his Pakistani counterpart will discuss the latest developments in the region, especially those in the Afghanistan issue along with bilateral ties and coordination for the next Nonaligned Movement summit conference.

**Khamene'i Endorses Constitutional Amendments**
*LD1907171189 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Tehran, July 19, IRNA—The leader of the Islamic revolution today endorsed all amendments to the Constitution approved by the Constitutional Review Council (CRC).

Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i also ordered the government and the Interior Ministry to put to referendum the constitutional amendments.

The public referendum will be held simultaneously with the Presidential polls on July 28.

The 25 member council was set up last May upon the orders of the late leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni in order to minutely review the Constitution and revise all weak points.

Twenty CRC members were appointed by the late imam himself and five others were selected by the Majlis.

**Opposition Group Urges Elections Boycott**
*LD1907165189 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Statement by the Central Committee of the Feda'i-Ye Khalq Iran (Majority) on the occasion of the presidential elections and the referandum for amendments to the Constitution]

[Text] Do not participate in the so-called election and referendum.

Compatriots: the Rafsanjani-Khamane'i group are hastily putting together the presidential election and the referendum for amendments to the Constitution on 28 July. What is being held on that day is not a true election and referendum but a show. [passage indistinct] under conditions when even the candidates supporting the government are denied the right to stand for election, under conditions when the press and other media are monopolized by the heads of the regime—and they only engage in flattery for the leaders of the regime—and under conditions when there is no guarantee that the election would be correct; what is being held is not a true election but a show stage-managed by the government.

So long as such conditions prevail, and there is no freedom for the people and political opposition, any kind of election is an empty plaything and a demogogic show.

The main plan of the leaders of the government in holding the election is to place Rafsanjani, whom they have appointed as president, as fast as possible on the presidential seat through rigged elections, and then by entrusting vast powers to him—and through the assistance of amendments to the Constitution—to secure stability of the regime in the absence of Khomeyni.

In order to attain that objective they even did not tolerate the candidacy of other governmnet supporters. They even did not inform the people of the names of some 80 prospective candidates.

The consequence of their mean plan is to entrust all the powers to a single individual and to impose a despot on the country.

Struggling and freedom-seeking compatriots, the regime leaders have chosen a single day for election and the referendum in pursuance of their objectives. The amendments to the Constitution must be effected by an assembly of people's representatives—representatives being chosen through free voting by all and by secret ballot. Only then it must be legitimized in a referendum.

But the present amendments have been drafted by the Council for the Reappraisal of the Constitution. The Council members are not representatives of the people. The Council is not legal because not only it does not represent the people, but it is not foreseen even in the current laws of the regime itself. The decisions of such a council for amendment of the Constitution is devoid of popular and legal credence. The Constitution must guard the interests of the people. Amendments and changes to it must also be effected toward the attainment of the people's sovereignty. However, the amendments introduced by the ruling clerics are directed at strengthening their bloodstained despotism on the people. The only thing it does not include is respect for the people's rights of sovereignty and exercise of popular will. These amendments are in the interests of the ruling clique; they are at blatant variance with the interests of the people and our country.

The contents of these amendments serve to concentrate all executive powers in the hands of a single person—that is, the imposition of a new dictator on the people and a lengthening of despotism.

Amendments which are directed at the perpetuation of clerical despotism as well as dictatorship of an individual would be against the people and at variance with their interests.

Our people demand freedom, peace, security, welfare, and justice; they are opposed to any kind of despotism and dictatorship. The present amendments to the Constitution do not reply to our people's demands nor do they cover the needs of our country.

Following its assessment of the plans and objectives of the regime leaders in holding the presidential election and the referendum, in view of the contents and the program to amend the Constitution, and in view of the lack of necessary conditions for free election and referandum, the Feda'i-Ye Khalq Iran (Majority) condemns the disreputable show which the Rafsanjani-Khamene'i gang has organized under the name of presidential elections and a referendum for amendments to the Constitution. It will refrain from participating in them. It asks all the compatriots to condemn the said show and to expose the regime's efforts to mask the true face of the ruling despotism.

[Signed] Central Committee of the Feda'i-Ye Khalq Iran (Majority), June-July 1989

**Khamene'i, Meshkini Exchange Letters on Constitution**
*LD1907222989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] The text approved by the Council for Reappraisal of the Constitution was submitted by the president of the council for the leader's consideration and if he approves it, the charter for referendum is to be issued.

The text of the letter of the president of the Council for the Reappraisal of the Constitution is as follows:

In his exalted name. To the lofty position of leadership, His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Hoseyni Khamene'i.

As you are aware, in the wake of the charter, dated 4 May 1989, by the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be in paradise, pertaining to the changes and completion of the Constitution by a select committee, the said committee, under the title of "the Council for Reappraisal of the Constitution," set up 41 meetings. It drafted all the necessary amendments and changes in cases which were referred to it. Finally, these changes were given final approval in 48 draft articles during the 38th to 41st meetings, dated 8 to 11 July 1989.

Now, in implementation of Article 177, the approved text is presented for your eminence's consideration, and in case of its confirmation, for the issuance of the charter for a referendum.

[Signed] President of the Council for Reappraisal of Constitution, 'Ali Meshkini, 16 July 1989.

The text of the reply by the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the president of the Council for Reappraisal of the Constitution is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

To His Eminence Ayatollah Haj Mirza 'Ali Meshkini, honorable president of the Council for Reappraisal of the Constitution.

With greetings and with thanks to Your Excellency, as well as to the honorable gentlemen members of the Council for Reappraisal of the Constitution, I herewith confirm and sign in toto the decisions of the said council—which represent the fruits of the consistent, heartfelt, and wise efforts of the honorable members of that council.

I thank God Almighty that, with the efforts of you gentlemen and despite the great calamity of the demise of the great leader His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may his station be loftier, the work on amending and completing the Constitution—which was of great interest to that late great leader—continued without halt, and that it reached a satisfactory conclusion.

Now the honorable cabinet, and in particular the honorable interior minister, may he continue to be blessed, are advised to submit the approved text to a referendum to be voted on by the dear nation of Iran.

Peace be on you and all faithful prayer givers.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, 19 July 1989.

**Rafsanjani Said Capable of 'Herculean Job'**
*LD2007081389 Tehran IRNA in English 0653 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Tehran, July 20, IRNA—An Iranian daily believes Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani was capable of creating suitable circumstances for boosting the economy.

The TEHRAN TIMES said Rafsanjani - the clear frontrunner in the presidential elections - should pick a cabinet that would play a crucial role in putting him on the right track for the "Herculean job" ahead.

"Uncoordinated economic plans in the past decade have had relatively negative outcomes, the worst having an acutely adverse impact on two areas: labor and productivity," it said.

Rafsanjani has promised to relieve the state of "unnecessary burdens and responsibilities" which people themselves are capable of shouldering, the daily said in its editorial Thursday.

The Majlis speaker, one of the two candidates in the upcoming presidential elections on July 28 vowed to prevent what he termed "accumulation of wealth in any particular sector of the society."

"It is expected that his presidency will usher in fundamental economic reforms and policies essential to economic reconstruction within the framework of a medium-term program," the daily asserted.

### Tehran on Eradicating Drug Smuggling, Addiction

*NC2007074589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Excerpts] Continuing the relentless campaign against the merchants of death 13 more of them in the cities of Mashhad, Bakhtaran, and Gorgan have been hanged as they deserve. This is at a time when there are very few days left until the end of the 6-month grace period allowed to addicts to give up their addiction, and on 23 July a new phase of the anti-addiction campaign is to begin. From then on, all drug addicts who have not given up their addiction will be legally prosecuted and will be given sentences according to the seriousness of their crime. [passage omitted]

According to statistics released by officials, there are 1 million drug addicts in Iran. Thus, coordination between work camps and rehabilitation centers seems necessary to accommodate the number of addicts. Keeping this in mind, the new stage in the campaign against addicts, which has solved the bulk of its problems, will thus enhance the success of the plan. It is hoped that this social scourge is purged from our society and the concomitant vices and abberations will also be eradicated from our society.

## Pakistan

### Unidentified Gunmen Fire on Shoppers in Hyderabad

#### 'At Least' 1 Killed

*BK1907170489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1646 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, July 19 (AFP)—At least one person was killed and many wounded when unidentified gunmen opened fire on shoppers in the city of Hyderabad on Wednesday, police said.

An emergency has been declared in Hyderabad's Bhitai Hospital, where the wounded are being brought, doctors contacted by telephone in the city some 100 miles (160 kilometers) north of here said.

Police said the gunmen opened fire on afternoon shoppers, sparking panic in the city. Shopkeepers pulled down their shutters and streets were immediately deserted, they said.

Exact casualty figures were not yet available, but police confirmed one death and said many people were wounded.

Police could not immediately identify the attackers. But sources within the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), a political party representing Urdu-speaking immigrants from India, said they suspected Sindhi youths of involvement.

Hyderabad had been tense since weekend fighting in nearby Hala town between Sindhi and Mohajir youths, who frequently clash in Mohajir-dominated Karachi and Hyderabad.

Hala was hit by clashes, looting and arson after an armed man killed a Sindhi poet, Manoj Kumar. Official sources said eight shops were burned and more than a dozen people wounded. Paramilitary troops moved into Hala to control the situation after the clashes.

#### Curfew Declared Following Clashes

*BK1907152989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Clashes took place between two groups of people in Hyderabad this afternoon, after which the district magistrate has enforced a curfew from 2000 tonight in Hyderabad city and Latifabad as a precautionary measure. There will be no curfew in the cantonment area and in (?Saif). Law enforcement agencies are patrolling the affected areas, and the situation is under control.

#### Sind Chief—6 Killed, 20 Injured

*BK2007023589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Sind Chief Minister Syed Qaim Ali Shah expressed extreme grief and concern over the death of six and injury to 20 innocent civilians in Hyderabad city yesterday. He condemned this cowardly act. He expressed his condolences to the bereaved families and sympathy with the injured.

The chief minister has ordered an inquiry into this incident, which will be carried out by a high court judge. He gave strict orders to the administration to apprehend the culprits.

### Muslim Sectarian Clash in North Leaves 4 Dead

*BK1907170089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1616 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Islamabad, July 19 (AFP)—Four people were killed in clashes between fundamentalist Sunni Moslems and members of the Ahmadi sect in northern Pakistan, police here said Wednesday.

A spokesman for the sect said police reinforcements had been sent in and had "witnessed" the weekend fighting in the village of Shak Sikandar, between Islamabad and Lahore, but that police had not acted.

The spokesman, Mujeeb Ur-Rahman, denounced what he called the "connivance between the mullahs and the police," and charged that the fundamentalists had burned 30 of the 120 houses in an Ahmadi village and killed 90 farm animals.

The police said however that the Ahmadis began the row by killing a Sunni, which they said had led the way for retaliations by either side in which three villagers were killed. "Some houses were destroyed," police added, terming it a "minor incident."

The Ahmadi sect was founded in 1889 in Qadian, India, by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who was called at the time a new prophet of Islam. Sect members now say they are trying to adapt Islam to the modern world.

The Ahmadi sect claims some 10 million followers worldwide, three million in Pakistan, where they say they are persecuted. Its followers were declared "non-Moslem" by a decree unanimously adopted by Pakistan's Parliament in 1974.

## Bhutto Interviewed on Domestic, Regional Issues

*JN1907175289 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic*
*19 Jul 89 p 16*

[Interview with Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto by Bari'a 'Alam-al-Din in Islamabad; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Question: Have you discussed with President 'Arafat his mediation efforts and defined the Palestinian role in the Afghan issue?

Benazir Bhutto: We discussed the Afghan problem in depth and agreed in principle that the solution has to be realized and established through a provisional or transitional government in which all Afghan forces are represented. 'Arafat and I were in full agreement on the principles. I do not want to delve into the details of what he or I proposed. However, we agreed that there must be a political solution through a provisional government enjoying large-scale support from the various Afghan political and ideological currents.

As you know very well, the Afghan mujahidin find it difficult to deal with Najibullah because they view him as a symbol of Soviet occupation. The foreign minister of the Afghan transitional government, which represents the mujahidin, met with Brother Yasir 'Arafat and explained the situation of the transitional government to him. We feel that those who were known for their support and closeness to the Soviet invasion should quit their positions to pave the way for peace instead of war. It is neither just nor logical that any party should impose its solution on others. All should cooperate with each other on moving to the transitional stage to entrench the solution and peace under international supervision and United Nations observers. Then, the Afghan people will be called to general elections after which authority will be given to the victorious party according to a democratic system based on majority rule.

We all believe in freedom and democracy. Why shouldn't the Afghan people be given their freedom, democracy, and the right to choose their representatives through free elections?

Question: A group of mujahidin see your recent stands as abandoning support for them to continue their struggle, especially when they see that seeking a solution to the Afghan cause through peaceful means is a waste of time. What is your opinion on that?

Benazir Bhutto: We offered the mujahidin full support in their struggle despite the problems which arose from this support in our relations with the Soviet Union, and also despite the financial, material, and social burdens which we have shouldered for their sake, not to mention the bombs and rockets that fell on our territory. Within this framework, we paid a huge price to support the mujahidin, contrary to the merely verbal support some countries are satisfied in giving. However, our government's policy is different from the policy of Ziaul Haq's government. He used to support certain groups of mujahidin while excluding others. We felt that he wanted to impose a government of his choice on the Afghan people. This is a stupidity no one will accept, since how can an individual outside Pakistan take the place of the Afghans in choosing their government. The Soviets failed at that and so did the British.

In addition to all this, my government does not accept that the Pakistanis be portrayed as exploiters of the Afghans, or any other people for that matter.

We say, contrary to what Ziaul Haq used to say, that defining the future of Afghanistan should spring from the will of the Afghan. No party in the world can take their place in imposing a solution without them.

We are not for one party and against another in Afghanistan.

We do not want to play the role of the "power-player," and neither do we believe that any state in the world has the right to play such a role.

Question: How are Pakistan's relations with the Arab Gulf states? How do you view the future of the Iraq-Iran war? And what would be the Pakistani Government's obligations if peace in the region were jeopardized?

Benazir Bhutto: The situation in the Gulf region is of great concern to us. I am absolutely sure that the situation is important for all Islamic states. We all share the feeling that a Muslim must not carry arms to fight his brother Muslim. The Islamic nation should unite if it is to acquire the elements of strength. It should also believe

that our strength will only be united through our cooperation, interaction, and coming together under a joint strategy to defend our existence and rights.

As a source and exporter of oil, the Gulf is a hotbed of old and continued conflict which may expand to harm the neighboring areas and the world. As we are geographically very close to the Gulf, we try to use our influence and resources to prevent the reeruption of the Iraq-Iran war. We welcomed the resolution calling for an end to the war and we support efforts to find a comprehensive solution to the problem on the basis of the UN resolutions. We believe this is the best means to proceed toward a just, lasting peace.

Our relations with all Arab states are excellent. They are based on the foundations that existed during the first era of the Pakistan People's Party government (in the era of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto). [passage omitted]

Question: How do view the future of your relations with Iran after the death of Khomeyni and after Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to the Soviet Union? Will the Iranian-Soviet cooperation affect your good relations with Iran?

Benazir Bhutto: Before Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to the Soviet Union, the Iranian foreign minister visited Pakistan. His visit was considered an indication of the positive relations between Iran and Pakistan. During the visit, views were exchanged most clearly and sincerely on bilateral, regional, and international issues.

You know that Iran is not only a Muslim nation, but a neighborly and fraternal country in view of its geographic proximity to our country. This proximity is important for us both. We are linked together by religious, historic, and cultural bonds. We wish the Iranian people all prosperity, stability, and peace. We felt that after the cease-fire between Iran and Iraq, the Iranians restored their ability to rebuild their economy and improve their living conditions. As neighbors and Muslims, we are glad that power was calmly transferred to the new leaders after Khomeyni's death. We hope that peace will continue to prevail.

On this occasion, I would like to refer to Iran's position on the Afghan issue and how it adopted a clear stand against the presence of foreign forces in Afghanistan. It also supported the Afghan provisional government at the Islamic states conference and refused to deal with the ruling regime in Afghanistan. We expect Iran to continue to stick to this policy in the future. We believe that any attempt to manipulate Islamic sentiments will benefit the enemies of Islam. We do not believe Iran would follow this approach.

Question: Following the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, talk has resurfaced in the Western countries on the possible launching of a quadripartite alliance comprising Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, and Afghanistan—after the removal of the Communist regime there—to confront common dangers. Do you think that the launching of such an alliance is possible? And are there any real justifications for the creation of such an alliance?

Benazir Bhutto: There were proposals calling for the conclusion of a collective strategic agreement and not for the creation of an alliance, considering the way the word alliance is understood. These proposals were inspired by a belief that there are common interests bringing together Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Turkey, the countries which represent a grouping with a common geographic depth. We, as I have just said, are linked through good and traditional ties, to Iran and Turkey. In the seventies, there was a regional cooperation council whose activities covered the fields of growth and development. In the sixties, during President Ayub Khan's era, such an alliance existed. Nowadays, we are cooperating in the economic field and various other fields. As for our government's key perspective on cooperation, it is derived from the principle of maintaining bilateral relations with these states. That is, we deal with each country on a direct bilateral basis and leave the door for dialogue and for the exchange of views entirely and freely open with all parties.

Question: You denied during your recent U.S. visit that Pakistan is on the road to producing its own atomic bomb. This denial looked as if it were the result of threats from the U.S. Congress that U.S. financial aid to your country might be withheld. Why cannot Pakistan, as some argue, have its own atomic weapon to face the Indian atomic weapon? And how do you reconcile your policy to the desire of your late father to see Pakistan possess this weapon?

Benazir Bhutto: I think that it is naive to talk about this issue in this manner. My father's talk about atomic power used to be inspired by his belief that we must have a nuclear power designed for peaceful purposes only. The International Atomic Energy Authority gave Pakistan the green light, during my father's rule, to embark on a nuclear program designed for peaceful purposes. We are attempting to acquire the know-how in this field. The doubts about our intentions in this regard have harmed our country's atomic energy requirements.

We do not seek to toy with the atomic energy issue. Rather, we want to bring about security and peace in our country. When some ask us to abandon the plan to produce a nuclear bomb, we respond to them by saying that we do not have a nuclear bomb; that is, one that is constructed, assembled, ready to be used, and positioned on the table—something which might prompt us to say that we will bury this bomb, as the bomb is something which we do not have. What we have is a peaceful program which would enable us to acquire the know-how. We have acquired the know-how which can never be obliterated or removed by a decision. In any case, our

policy is not based on a belief in the need to produce nuclear weapons or to see these weapons multiply. We will not willfully make the decision to manufacture or assemble the atomic bomb.

Question: But how can you feel secure while India possesses this bomb?

Benazir Bhutto: The arms race between India and Pakistan is bad enough for both countries. As for a nuclear arms race between the two countries, it would be worse. I do not know how the two countries can feel secure if such a race materializes.

In the nuclear field, such an arms race would result in an intensification of the wars of extermination and also in the destruction of the two countries. The effects of the Hiroshima bomb are still vivid in the memory. This is not an easy children's game. We have to look for security through positive means. We believe in the endeavors that seek to achieve a durable peace and also in stopping the conventional and nuclear arms races.

We have voiced ideas and proposals to which we have not received any answers so far. If we seek to achieve peace, we have to reach regional solutions and agreements. Otherwise, the threats and pressures emanating from here will be met with threats and pressures there. [passage omitted]

## Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati Visits

### Arrives 20 Jul; Speaks to Newsmen

*BK2[illegible]062289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 060[illegible]GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] The Iranian foreign minister, Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, arrived in Islamabad this morning on a brief visit. Speaking to newsmen, he said the frequent high-level visits between Pakistan and Iran have helped to further strengthen the already existing fraternal relations between the two countries. He said the major purpose of his visit is to consolidate the viewpoints on various regional issues, including Afghanistan.

### Criticizes U.S.

*LD2007140389 Tehran IRNA in English 1355 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] Islamabad, July 20, IRNA—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today reviewed with Pakistan's President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the latest developments in Afghanistan and ways to strengthen unity among different mujahidin groups fighting the Kabul regime.

President Ishaq lauded the Islamic Republic for its efforts to unite all Afghan mujahidin groups.

Iran is trying to close the gap between the various ethnic groups in neighbouring Afghanistan, and has advised the 7-party Peshawar based Pashto-coalition which has formed a minority government of its own, to join hands with all other mujahidin for a broad-based rule.

Last month, the other main Afghan group the Iran-based eight-party coalition closed ranks with four Sunni groups to form the "jihad shura'.

Meanwhile, in a separate meeting with his Pakistani counterpart Sahabzada Yaqub Khan today, Velayati expressed concern over the interference of superpowers in Afghan internal affairs.

He said "the United States does not want the Afghan issue to be solved and is seeking its own interest."

Iran and Pakistan should both help Afghan Muslims to bring about a new situation or else, cautioned Velayati, the United States would prolong the crisis in line with its vested interests and would dictate its own policies on the mujahidin.

Of late, even rank outsiders to the region such as the Wahhabi regime ruling Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] are trying to meddle in Afghan affairs on behalf of the United States.

The Iranian minister advised the mujahidin to maintain their vigilance and safeguard the achievements of the long years of struggle.

Yaqub Khan expressed hope that Afghan Muslims would gain their due victory in the near future.

## Commission Meeting With India Ends; Rao Leaves

*BK1907164089 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Pakistan and India have agreed on a number of concrete measures to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in various fields. This was announced at the end of the Pakistan-India Joint Ministrial Commission meeting in Islamabad today.

In the field of trade, the two sides agreed to the setting up of a joint business council. The Pakistan side announced the enlargement of the list of items to be imported from India in the private sector by another 322 items under the system of classification. The two sides will exchange delegations to increase bilateral industrial cooperation, while visits in other (?private) sectors will take place.

A protocol on cultural exchanges was also signed, envisaging a 3-year cultural exchange program for 1989-1991 [sentence as heard]. It provides for cooperation in the fields of education, information, art, culture, and sports. They agreed to exchange radio and television programs

and professionals and permit commercial exchange of newspapers and periodicals as well as allowing the posting more correspondents on reciprocal basis.

Various facilities have also been extended to tourists and pilgrims visiting each other's country.

The Indian external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, who led his country's delegation at the Joint Commission meeting called on the prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, in Islamabad today. They reviewed the results of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's recent visit to Pakistan and the deliberations of the third meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission. It was felt that the momentum generated by the Indian premier's visit and the Joint Commission meeting will facilitate the settlement of outstanding bilateral disputes and promote further mutually beneficial cooperation. Regional situation also came up for discussion with a view to early rescheduling of the seventh session of SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] Council of Ministers.

Later, Mr Narasimha Rao left Islamabad for New Delhi.

## Sri Lanka

### India Dispute May Be Resolved 'In a Few Days'

*BK1907140889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1351 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Excerpt] Colombo, July 19 (AFP)—A Sri Lankan minister Wednesday said the government was hopeful of ending "in a few days" the impasse with New Delhi over the Indian military presence on the island.

Minister of State for Information A. J. Ranasinghe told reporters that consultations were still on between the two countries on Colombo's demand to withdraw the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) by the end of this month.

Mr. Ranasinghe, a close associate of President Ranasinghe Premadasa, told the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Sri Lanka that he was hopeful that the issue would be resolved "in a few days".

"There won't be a question of a confrontation. India is a giant. A wise giant," the minister said, adding: "but if India tries to invade us, we will fight back. We may perish, but we will not allow anyone to invade us."

However, he said he was confident that India would not take any aggressive action against Sri Lanka. "We are both God loving countries. God will solve (our) problems."

Mr. Ranasinghe, who has also been Sri Lanka's ambassador to Canada, said Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi would attract negative world opinion if he continued to maintain the IPKF in the island against Colombo's wishes.

A special envoy of Mr. Gandhi returned to New Delhi last week after three days of talks here which Indian officials described as exploratory.

Mr. Ranasinghe said Mr. Premadasa was firm on the deadline set by him for the withdrawal of the 45,000-strong IPKF from Sri Lanka's northeast, where the minority Tamil population is concentrated.

Mr. Premadasa has also ordered the Indian troops confined to barracks if they cannot leave the island by the end of July and asked Sri Lankan Security Forces to take their place. [Passage omitted]

### 13 Killed in Bombing of Religious Ceremony

#### JVP Suspected

*BK1907065689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Reports from Sri Lanka say at least 13 persons have been killed since last night in violence unleashed by suspected JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] extremists.

In the southern Kataragama town, two hand grenades were thrown minutes after a temple procession started last night. The grenades exploded, killing 9 on the spot and injuring 83. Police said that 15 were seriously injured. The minister of state, Mr (Dharmadasa Banda), who was leading the procession, was also injured and is being flown to Colombo for treatment.

In another incident this morning, a land mine blew up a jeep of the security forces near Colombo, killing all the four occupants on the spot.

#### Attack Said Assassination Attempt

*BK1907135489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1344 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Colombo, July 19 (AFP)—Anti-government rebels exploded grenades at a crowded Buddhist and Hindu religious ceremony in southern Sri Lanka, killing 13 people, military officials here said Wednesday.

Subversives lobbed bombs late Tuesday at a Buddhist and Hindu religious festival witnessed by some 100,000 people at Kataragama, in the island's deep south, killing 13 devotees and wounding 60, the officials said.

Junior Information Minister A. J. Ranasinghe said it was an assassination attempt on his colleague R. M. Dharmadasa Banda, minister of state for up country rural development, who escaped with injuries.

Mr. Banda was the chief lay custodian of the temple. His personal secretary was among those killed. The dead included four children, three women and six men, the sources said.

Mr. Banda, who was seen in a red traditional costume, was immediately flown to Colombo along with some others who had been seriously injured.

"The President (Ranasingha Premadasa) was saddened to learn that a religious festival had been attacked...

"In spite of all this, the president is still willing to have talks with the JVP, (Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna or People's Liberation Front)" Mr. Ranasinghe told foreign correspondents here.

He was hopeful that JVP leaders would accept an invitation to hold face-to-face negotiations with the president in a bid to solve the present crisis in the country. "I hope it will happen soon. That will be the happiest day for Sri Lanka," Mr. Ranasinghe told a luncheon meeting of the Foreign Correspondents Association of Sri Lanka.

He called for the understanding of foreign journalists about the situation in the island and said the authorities would "very soon" lift the censorship clamped on them.

Military officials said an unknown number of attackers flung three grenades at the gathering, two of which exploded, causing a frenzied stampede in which dozens were injured while running away in fear.

The explosions occurred as people were witnessing traditional temple dances and performances by caparisoned elephants at the festival observed every July by Buddhists and Hindus, the two major religious communities in Sri Lanka.

Splinters also struck an elephant, which ran amok, the sources said. It was not known if the animal caused more injuries.

The unexploded bomb was seized by the police.

Kataragama, in Monaragala District, is a tourist spot because of its proximity to a national wildlife sanctuary, but it was not known whether any foreign tourists were at the function.

Monaragala is also a known stronghold of Sinhalese militants, who intensified their anti-government campaign after India and Sri Lanka signed a peace pact in 1987 to end Tamil separatism.

The JVP, whose attempt to seize power in 1971 was put down with a loss of more than 10,000 lives, opposes the presence of 45,000 Indian troops across the island's Tamil-populated north-east under the terms of the accord.

### Government Warns Public on 'Possible' Violence

*BK1907142489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1417 GMT 19 Jul 89*

[Text] Colombo, July 19 (AFP)—The Sri Lankan Government sounded a general alert Wednesday against possible violence by anti-government militants and urged the public to be vigilant.

A government communique issued here said "subversives... have plans to cause death and destruction to innocent people." It added: "They are prepared to place explosives and detonate them electrically or by other means in the most unsuspected places (such) as crowded buses, trains, bus terminals and railway stations."

The communique asked people to be "extra vigilant" and inform police and security forces about "any suspicious activities to destroy innocent lives and property."

The warning came a day after "subversives" lobbed bombs at a crowded religious gathering in the island's deep south, killing at least 13 people and wounding more than 60.

### Northeast Minister Survives Assassination Bid

*BK2007053489 Hong Kong AFP in English 0521 GMT 20 Jul 89*

[Text] New Delhi, July 20 (AFP)—Tamil militants have launched a grenade attack on the motorcade of Sri Lanka's Northeast Province chief minister, injuring 13 people, the region's ruling party said Thursday [20 July] from its office in Madras.

The Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), which has run the northeast province for the past eight months, said from its office in India's southern city of Madras that Tamil militants hurled two grenades Wednesday at Varadaraja Perumal's motorcade in Sri Lanka's Jaffna region, blowing up a car and injuring 13 people.

The EPRLF statement said Mr. Perumal was unhurt in the early morning attack as his car was not hit by the grenades, but did not say if the injured people belonged to his motorcade.

The Tamil group, which has sworn allegiance to the Sri Lankan Constitution, accused the island's main separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), of masterminding the assassination attempt.

It gave no further details.

The LTTE has placed the rival EPRLF chief on a death list for supporting a July 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan accord aimed at ending ethnic violence in the island republic.

The reported attack on Mr. Perumal's motorcade came six days after suspected Tamil militants assassinated two leaders of Sri Lanka's Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), Appapillai Amirthalingam and V. Yogeswaran, at their common house in Colombo.

The assassins were shot dead by Mr. Amirthalingam's bodyguards and later the group accused the LTTE of murdering the two TULF leaders. The LTTE has denied the allegation.

On Sunday, unidentified gunmen killed a leader of the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), Uma Maheshwaran, in a sea-side Colombo District.

The three assassinations came after Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa declared a state of emergency in the island, giving sweeping powers to the country's security forces to tackle the worsening law and order situation.

## PLOTE Leader Said Killed by Former Associates

*BK2007071589 Hong Kong AFP in English 0709 GMT 20 JUl 89*

[Text] Colombo, July 20 (AFP)—Tamil militant leader Uma Maheshwaran was gunned down by former members of his People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT) group, an associate of the slain man was quoted Thursday as saying.

The slaying of Mr. Maheshwaran, 44, here Sunday was "the work of seven members who had left PLOT," THE ISLAND newspaper reported a PLOT spokesman known by his nom de guerre of Manikkadasan as saying.

Mr. Manikkadasan, who is also the PLOT's military commander, did not give further details about the seven, or why and how he thought they had gone about killing Mr. Maheshwaran.

Unidentified gunmen shot dead Mr. Maheshwaran, one of the stalwarts of the Sri Lankan Tamil separatist campaign, three days after gunmen killed two senior Tamil politicians here.

No one has claimed responsibility for either slaying.

Mr. Manikkadasan was also reported as appealing to Sri Lanka's Tamil minority, which is concentrated in the island's north-east, to mourn the death of the PLOT leader.

Tamil sources here said Mr. Maheshwaran, who reportedly took five bullets, would be cremated possibly later Thursday in the northern district of Vavuniya, where the PLOT is said to wield some following.

A founder-leader of the dominant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Mr. Maheshwaran founded the Marxist-oriented PLOT in 1980. The group accepted a 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace pact which sought to end Tamil separatism.

But he turned anti-India in later years, calling in 1988 for a withdrawal of the estimated 45,000 Indian troops from Sri Lanka.

Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom accused Mr. Maheshwaran of master-minding a bloody coup attempt against his regime in November, which was put down by Indian troops after the death of some 20 lives.

Mr. Maheshwaran denied the charge, but went virtually underground after the operation.